

Cyprus denies arming Kurdish rebels

NICOSIA (AP) — Cyprus on Friday rejected a charge by Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal that it was arming and training Kurdish rebels operating in Turkey. "There is no doubt these charges are directly connected with Ankara," aggressive and expansionist designs against Cyprus," government spokesman Petros Vostakides said in a statement. He added that Mr. Ozal's charges "must cause serious concern to all those interested in peaceful developments in Cyprus. In 1974 Ankara used the pretext of the coup to invade Cyprus. Today it is thinking up new pretexts to pursue Turkish designs against Cyprus and its people." Turkey invaded and occupied the northern one-third of the Mediterranean island in July 1974 ostensibly to protect the Turkish Cypriot minority following a short-lived coup by Greek Cypriot supporters of union with Greece. Mr. Ozal said Thursday Turkey had documentary proof that weapons seized from Kurdish guerrillas in southeast Turkey had been sent through the Greek Cypriot sector of Cyprus.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز بومبيسياتية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية والرأي

South and N. Yemen end unity talks

SANAA (R) — The leaders of South and North Yemen ended merger talks in Sanaa on Friday without issuing any statement on their discussions. The head of South Yemen's ruling Socialist Party, Ali Salem Al-Baidh, left for home after a four-day visit during which he held talks with North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Salh on forming a united Yemen. Radio Sanaa said. The two leaders, despite willingness to unite their countries, apparently failed to resolve major problems standing in the way of a merger of the two countries, political sources said. They said South Yemen wanted coordination of economic and social policies to come first, while North Yemen gave priority to the problem of thousands of South Yemeni exiles in Sanaa. "Special importance should be given to economic integration, trade exchanges, coordinating economic and social plans, setting up joint oil projects and facilitating travel between the two Yemens," Mr. Baidh said in Sanaa two days ago. Mr. Salh, apparently referring to the South Yemeni exiles, said in response that "a merger between the two Yemens is the only solution to settle differences and is a source of strength in internal and external policies."

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King and Queen to visit Switzerland

BERNE (R) — His Majesty King Hussein plans an official visit to Switzerland in the second half of September, the Swiss Foreign Ministry said Friday. Though dates have not been fixed, a ministry spokesman said the King, accompanied by Her Majesty Queen Noor, would meet Foreign Minister Pierre Aubert, the current Swiss president. The spokesman declined to give details of the agenda but said he expected the King to discuss with Swiss leaders the prospects for a Middle East peace conference. Switzerland has offered to play host for such a conference.

King sends cable to Mitterrand

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein on Thursday sent a cable to French President Francois Mitterrand congratulating him on the close escape of his son and his two grand-daughters from an accident in Spain where they were on a vacation. In his cable King Hussein wished the son and grand-daughters of President Mitterrand speedy recovery and good health and happiness.

Reagan picks Texas judge as FBI head

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has selected Texas Judge William Sessions as the new director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Senator Lloyd Bentsen of Texas said Friday. He said through an aide that Mr. Reagan was to announce his choice of the 57-year-old jurist later Friday.

Reagan sends letter of support to Gemayel

BEIRUT (R) — President Amin Gemayel received a letter on Friday from U.S. President Ronald Reagan reaffirming Washington's support for Lebanese sovereignty and independence, official sources said. They said the letter, delivered by U.S. Ambassador John Kelly, included a message on the visit to Damascus earlier this month by special U.S. envoy Vernon Walters.

British author wins libel case

LONDON (R) — Millionaire author Jeffrey Archer on Friday won £500,000 (\$800,000) damages from a British tabloid that reported he had sex with a prostitute, allegations that damaged his political career. The novelist, author of best-sellers such as "Kane and Abel" and "First Among Equals," had resigned as deputy chairman of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Conservative Party after the scandal broke.

Hijacker said to be Hizbollah member

TYRE (AP) — The man who commandeered an Air Afrique jetliner to Geneva on Friday belongs to the pro-Iranian Hizbollah, which sponsors factions that hold hostages in Lebanon, relatives said. They said ship pirate Hussein Ali Mahmoud Hariri, who shot and killed one passenger before the crew of the hijacked DC-10 overpowered him (See page 8), had been imprisoned by Israel for nearly three years.

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U.S.-flag tanker limps to Kuwait after hitting mine

KUWAIT (Agencies) — A U.S.-flag Kuwaiti supertanker hit by a mine in the northern Gulf on Friday while under U.S. naval escort has dropped anchor off Kuwait, a senior Kuwaiti oil official said.

Abdul Fattah Al Bader, chairman of the Kuwait Oil Tanker Company (KOTC), told Reuters the 401,382-tonne Bridgeton suffered damage to a crude oil tank but would be able to load with only a short delay.

The Bridgeton, escorted by three U.S. warships on maximum alert, struck a mine early Friday morning near an Iranian island which has been used as a base to attack Kuwaiti shipping.

The blast, 30 kilometres west of Farsi Island, caused no injuries among the 26-man crew.

A second reflagged Kuwaiti tanker in the convoy, the gas carrier Gas Prince, was proceeding to Kuwait's main oil port of Mina Al Ahmadi.

Mr. Bader said divers would inspect damage to the Bridgeton on Saturday before it berthed at an offshore loading terminal.

Since only one tank was damaged, the ship could load most of its cargo and proceed out of the Gulf for repairs.

In Washington, U.S. officials said it was hard to believe anyone but Iran would have laid mines in the area but they ruled out retaliation for the time being.

Iran has singled out Kuwaiti shipping for attack because of Kuwait's support for Iraq in the Gulf war.

A crowd of worshippers in Tehran rejoiced at the news of the mine blast, chanting "Death to the USA" and "Persian Gulf of Iran, the graveyard of Reagan."

Asked what Mr. Reagan's reaction was, the spokesman said "he asked mostly technical questions" about the condition of the Bridgeton.

Fitzwater said officials have not determined whether the mine was a floating mine or had been moored in the water.

Fitzwater said the Gulf situation was being discussed at a previously scheduled mid-morning meeting Mr. Reagan planned with top-ranking officials of the national security establishment.

The spokesman would not say who was taking part in the meeting.

The spokesman said that "U.S. naval vessels in the area have reported sighting several other unidentified objects in the water." But he also said that U.S. helicopter reconnaissance "has revealed no floating mines."

Fitzwater refused to speculate on the source of the mine-laying, and said that "at this time, retaliation is not a matter of consideration."

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Mr. Musavi said the incident was an "irreparable blow to America's political and military prestige," reported the official Islamic Republic News Agency.

In Washington, White House spokesman Marlin Fitzwater said the mine incident illustrates "the almost indiscriminate danger" faced by vessels in the Gulf, but said no retaliation was contemplated.

"We're still investigating and analysing the situation," Fitzwater said at a White House briefing. "We have not determined any source for the planting of the mine."

Fitzwater said President Ronald Reagan was awakened at around 2 a.m., and informed of the incident by National Security Adviser Frank Carlucci.

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Palestinian dies in Israeli custody

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A 23-year-old Palestinian collapsed and died on Tuesday in an Israeli prison while awaiting interrogation over alleged links with Palestinian organisations, Israeli prison service officials said Friday.

In the light of recent accusations that Arab prisoners were tortured and abused in Israeli jails, the body of Awad Hamdin was taken to the institute of forensic medicine which found no marks of ill-treatment, according to the officials.

No independent confirmation of the Israeli officials' version of the incident was available.

Mr. Hamdin, a resident of the Tulikarm area of the occupied West Bank, was arrested two weeks ago on suspicion of belonging to an undisclosed "enemy organisation" and held at the Israeli-run prison in the West Bank town of Jenin, officials said.

In other developments, a petrol bomb was thrown at an Israeli bus travelling from Jerusalem to Hebron in the occupied West Bank Thursday night but caused no injuries or damage, Israeli sources said Friday.

Palestinian activists were assumed to be responsible for attacking the bus, widely used by Jewish settlers in the Israeli-occupied territories, the sources told Reuters.

Earlier police safely dismantled an explosive charge placed at a soldiers' hitch-hiking stand near the Israeli port Ashdod.

They said there was no indication who planted the bomb.

In Lod, an Israeli military court charged an Israeli Arab on Thursday with trying to join the Fateh guerrilla movement of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) at its former offices in Cairo.

According to the charge, Mohammad Aissa, 21, applied for membership of Fateh three times in February but was rejected and told to return this summer, when the group would be seeking new recruits.

Israeli law forbids membership of the PLO.

Egypt closed the Cairo offices of the PLO when it broke ties with the group in April.

Iranian sources pointed out that although Al Qabas may have been critical of Tehran, it was not correct to describe the newspaper as being opposed to Ayatollah Khomeini's fundamentalist administration.

The newspaper has a circulation of 43,500 for its London international edition, while a Gulf edition is produced in Kuwait. Mr. Adhami's work appeared in both editions, his colleagues said.

In Tunis, a spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) accused unnamed "Arab intelligence services" of being behind the shooting.

Mr. Adhami, whose satirical work for Middle Eastern newspapers over the last 25 years was well known in the Arab World, was shot by a lone assailant.

The Iranian embassy in London issued a statement saying it "condemned the latest terrorist attack (and)... categorically denies any involvement in terrorism."

The sources, contacted by the Jordan Times by telephone in London and Kuwait, could not say whether there was any progress in police investigations into the attack, which took place late Wednesday in the fashionable Chelsea district of London.

His Majesty King Hussein on Thursday condemned the attack.

The King, on a private visit to Britain, denounced the attack in messages to the head office of the Al Qabas, and Mr. Adhami's family.

At the directives of the King, Jordan's Ambassador to Kuwait Wail Touqan Thursday called at Al Qabas' headquarters and expressed the King's regret over the attempted assassination.

Shultz: Reagan relied largely on himself in Iran deal

WASHINGTON (R) — Secretary of State George Shultz on Friday portrayed President Ronald Reagan as a decisive leader who relied largely on his own judgement in deciding to proceed with the politically damaging plan to sell arms to Iran.

Mr. Shultz, in his second day of testimony on how Mr. Reagan's cabinet worked, told Congress Iran-contra committees he and Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger argued forcefully against the secret arms-sale proposal in late 1985 and early 1986.

"So if your point is that the president was in some doubt about our views, your point is wrong," Mr. Shultz said.

He was expanding on opening-day testimony (See page 2) that he had been kept ignorant of the fact that the Iran-arms project went ahead throughout 1986.

Once he found out, he said, he fought "a battle royal" with National Security Adviser John Poindexter, Central Intelligence

Agency (CIA) Director William Casey and others to get it stopped and an honest version of the facts made public.

His questioner in the key exchange on Friday was Republican Congressman William Broomfield.

"Why didn't you have more influence with the president," Mr. Broomfield asked. "You apparently he was relying on Bill Casey."

Mr. Casey, who died in May, has been described as a forceful proponent of both the arms sales to Iran and the diversion of profits to Nicaragua's "contra" rebels.

"Well, I think the president was relying on himself," Mr. Shultz replied in reference to the early inner-circle debates on the arms-sales proposal.

"You seem to miss the point that the president is very decisive person and he viewed all of this and he made a decision, which he is perfectly entitled to make..."

Soviets insist U.S. warheads on Pershing 1As must go

GENEVA (Agencies) — A U.S.-Soviet arms treaty banning medium and shorter-range nuclear missiles hinges on the removal of 72 West German rockets, Alexei Obukhov, the deputy leader of the Soviet arms negotiating team, said Friday.

Mr. Obukhov told a news briefing at the Soviet diplomatic mission that the American warheads must be removed from 72 Pershing-1A missiles belonging to West Germany.

"Those warheads belong to the United States," he said. "They should go. They should be scrapped."

But a U.S. official here told Reuters: "This is a demand which we will not accept. Bilateral negotiations cannot include third country systems nor affect existing programmes of cooperation between the U.S. and its (NATO) allies."

The U.S. official, who asked not to be named, said the Soviets had never raised their objection to the Pershings at the two sum-

mits between President Ronald Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev (Geneva in 1985, and Reykjavik in 1986).

Mr. Obukhov, speaking a day after formally offering a plan to the American side which would scrap all U.S. and Soviet medium and shorter-range nuclear missiles in Asia and Europe, said:

"The solution proposed by the Soviet Union provides for complete elimination of warheads on medium-range missiles, including U.S. warheads for Pershing 1A shorter-range missiles possessed by West Germany."

Mr. Obukhov added: "Production of medium-range missiles and shorter-range missiles would have to be discontinued."

In remarks made public Wednesday, Mr. Gorbachev offered to eliminate Soviet medium-range nuclear missiles in Asia if the United States would not insist on keeping 100 medium-range warheads outside Europe.

Radio Moscow reported millions of people in the Soviet Union and Syria watched live transmissions of the docking, which made use of a new fuel-saving system apparently designed to eliminate problems that prevented a space laboratory from docking in April.

Syrian and Soviet cosmonauts dock with Mir station

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Two Soviet cosmonauts and Syria's first spaceman docked their Soyuz spacecraft with the orbiting station Mir on Friday and prepared to bring home ahead of schedule a colleague with a heart problem after six months in space.

Soyuz TM-3 linked up with Mir at 0331 GMT and 90 minutes later its three-man crew entered the giant orbiting laboratory to warm greetings from Soviet cosmonauts Alexander Laveikin and Yuri Romanenko, who have been in the cosmonaut since Feb. 8.

Syrian cosmonaut Mohammad Faris, 36, waved to a television camera and smiled broadly as he floated in a state of weightlessness beside Alexander Viktorov and Alexander Alexandrov at the end of their two-day flight to Mir.

Faris was the first foreigner to go aboard Mir. The next manned flight to the station, a joint Soviet-Bulgarian mission, is scheduled for early 1988.

Faris, a Syrian air force pilot from Aleppo, is the second Arab in space. Prince Sultan Ibn Salman Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia became the first when he took part in a U.S. shuttle mission in 1985.

"Delighted to see you, make yourself at home," Romanenko and Laveikin greeted Faris inside the space complex.

"This is a great moment," they said as a Syrian delegation led by Defence Minister Mustafa Tlas applauded while watching proceedings from mission control.

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Shultz offered to resign 3 times due to White House in-fighting

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State George Shultz, portraying himself as frustrated by administration in-fighting and White House "guerrilla warfare," says he offered to resign three times.

"I felt a sense of estrangement," said Mr. Shultz, adding that was a "terrible time" for him.

The disclosure came during Mr. Shultz's testimony Thursday before the congressional Iran-contra investigating committees. He discussed being kept in the dark on the Iran-contra affair and described a tug-of-war with individuals like the late CIA Director William Casey and then-National Security Adviser John Poindexter over what information President Ronald Reagan received.

In two cases, Mr. Shultz's threats to resign led to a change of policy. Last August, he said, he changed his mind because Mr. Reagan told him to take a vacation and think about it. Then things got busy in September "so nothing ever happened on that," he said.

Mr. Shultz said none of the resignations was related to the Iran-contra affair.

But he said his dissatisfaction with other presidential advisers over the matter followed earlier battles within the Reagan administration.

"There was a kind of guerrilla warfare going on all kinds of little things" last August, the last time he offered to resign, Mr. Shultz said.

The problem included "peo-

ple on the White House staff" halting the assignment through the White House of air force aircraft Shultz requested for trips. He said Johnathan Miller, former White House aide, was trying to "knock me out of trips."

Mr. Shultz said he had to tell Mr. Reagan about the airplane matter "and that's no business for the secretary of state to be taking up to the president of the United States."

"I felt that I was no longer on the wavelength that I should be on," he said. "And so I told the president. I said, 'I'd like to leave, and here's my letter.'"

But he ended up staying, as he had two times before. The first time was in mid-1983, he said, when he learned Robert McFarlane, then the deputy national security adviser, had made a secret trip throughout the Middle East without Mr. Shultz's knowledge.

Such a trip undercut his role as the chief U.S. foreign policy officer, Mr. Shultz said.

"So I went to the president and I said, 'Mr. President, you don't need a guy like me for secretary of state if this is the way things are going to be done, because when you send somebody out like that, I'm done.'"

He submitted his resignation again in December 1985 when the administration, over his objec-

tions, ordered a sweeping programme of lie detector tests to control leaking of information by employees.

Mr. Shultz confronted Mr. Reagan and won modifications in the directive.

When the Iran-contra affair became public last fall, Mr. Shultz was still battling others around the president, especially on briefing Mr. Reagan about the secret arms sales to Iran.

"I could see people were calling for me to resign if I can't be loyal to the president, even including some of my friends. ... and I frankly felt that I was the one who was loyal to the president, because I was the one who was trying to get him the facts so he could make a decision."

Mr. Shultz was not the first secretary to threaten resignation over policy issues.

Henry Kissinger, who served President Richard Nixon, once quipped that when he wrote his memoirs he would call them "my six resignations" — a parody on the title of Mr. Nixon's "my six crises."

Alexander M. Haig Jr., secretary of state at the beginning of the Reagan administration, also threatened to leave several times. In June 1982, Mr. Reagan accepted the offer.

Meanwhile members of the congressional Iran-contra committees, astonished by what they heard from Mr. Shultz, still are asking why he didn't mount stronger opposition to the covert sale of arms to Iran.

Mr. Shultz on Thursday direct-

ly accused at least two top administration officials — Adm. Poindexter and late CIA Director Casey — of misleading President Reagan to save themselves from the aftermath of a disastrous policy they helped create.

Mr. Shultz said that on Dec. 7, 1983, when Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger raised legal questions about the arms sales, the president said: "Well, the American people will never forgive me if I fail to get these hostages out over this legal question."

The secretary said he told Mr. Reagan after the presidential news conference on Nov. 19 that he had made "many statements that were wrong or misleading," but Mr. Shultz said that afterwards he felt he "didn't make a dent" on the president.

But Mr. Shultz still faced questions about why he chose to insulate the State Department from the policy once it appeared the president had adopted it, rather than continue to fight it or to propose alternative plans for winning release of Americans hostages in Lebanon.

"His answers on that have been rather weak," said Republican Congressman Bill McCollum.

"I'm not yet satisfied," said Senator Sam Nunn, an opposition Democrat.

"The White House, the president himself, was being manipulated for the ends of a few people. ... I think his testimony was more important, profound and fundamental than that of all the other witnesses combined."

Kidnappers threaten to kill hostages if demands not met

BEIRUT, Lebanon (AP) — Iranian-backed Lebanese kidnappers have said they would not free any of the French hostages they hold in Lebanon alive unless their demands were fully met by the French government.

Islamic Jihad, or Islamic holy war, delivered the warning in a 32-line typewritten statement to the independent Beirut newspaper An Nahar and a Western news agency in Syrian-occupied west Beirut after nightfall.

The Arabic statement was accompanied by a black-and-white picture of French hostage Jean-Paul Kauffmann to authenticate the statement.

The statement denied that Islamic Jihad has issued a telephone threat to two Western news agencies in west Beirut last week that it would kill two of the four French hostages in its captivity because France broke diplomatic ties with Iran.

"The Western media upon the direction of the French intelligence service had leaked a threat attributed to us that we will execute two of the French captives to manipulate this issue in France's spiteful conflict with the (Iranian) Islamic Revolution," the statement said.

However, the statement went

on: "We assert once again that our demands are clear and the French government knows them perfectly well. None of the captives will come alive unless all our demands are fully met."

The statement did not spell out the demands. But the group had previously demanded the release of 17 comrades held in Kuwait for the December 1983 bombings of the U.S. and French embassies there.

The group, which is believed made up of Shi'ite extremists loyal to Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, had also demanded that France stop military assistance to Iraq.

The written statement was the first issued by Islamic Jihad since Syria deployed 7,500 troops in west Beirut on Feb. 22 to curb the chaotic reign of feuding militias.

The statement accused France of exploiting the telephone threat of July 17 "to issue threats in case any harm befall the captives."

That was a reference to two telephone calls made almost simultaneously to two Western news agencies claiming that French hostages Marcel Carton and Marcel Fontaine would be killed immediately because of France's decision to sever ties with Iran.

Egypt celebrates anniversary of revolution

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt celebrated the 35th anniversary of its revolution with little fanfare, but President Hosni Mubarak praised its achievements in "changing the course of history."

He also called for reforms in public education, generally seen as one of the revolution's greatest achievements but which has recently come under growing criticism.

State-run newspapers carried banner headlines of Mr. Mubarak's speech Thursday, given Wednesday and broadcast live to the nation, and published lists of congratulatory messages from government officials to the president.

But, the celebration passed quietly otherwise, with downtown Cairo unusually calm as the public holiday and high temperatures kept most people indoors. Apart from a couple of nationalistic songs and old Revolution Day movies, radio and television stations beamed their regular programmes.

"Our brave military men led by the late leader Jamal Abdul Nasser sparked off the glorious July revolution," Mr. Mubarak said in his speech. "It has changed the course of history in Egypt and the Arab World and has had positive repercussions on liberation movements in Africa, Asia and Latin America."

On July 23, 1952, a group of young officers in Cairo seized power from King Farouk who was sent into exile three days later. A year later, Egypt was declared a republic and by 1954 Col. Nasser had become first elected president.

The new leaders started sweeping social reforms, distributing agricultural land and ending an ancient feudal system.

Speaking of the influence of the revolution on liberation movements, Mr. Mubarak said "the Algerian revolution was born in Egypt, and was supported by Egypt militarily and politically until independence."

Col. Nasser's revolution was inspirational to Cuba's Fidel Castro, and backed a number of independence movements in a number of Arab countries such as Yemen, Iraq and Sudan.

Mr. Mubarak also cited Libya as one of the examples of countries following Egypt's lead in overthrowing the monarchy and pursuing social reforms.

He alluded only in passing however, to the current state of tension with the North African neighbour. "And now 35 years after the revolution, foreign elements attempt to... destroy the union of Egypt's people and their stability."

"We live in an area boiling with plots," he said. Egypt has often blamed Libya and Syria, both one-time friends after the revolution, for fomenting internal unrest in the country.

2 Israeli generals refused entry to U.S. after Pollard spy case

TEL AVIV (R) — The United States has told Israel that two of its top generals would not be welcome to come to America because of suspected involvement in the Jonathan Pollard spy case, Israeli military sources have said.

Recently retired army Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Moshe Levy and Air Force Commander Major General Amos Lapidot could be served with subpoenas by U.S. courts if they came to the United States as they had planned, the sources said.

Neither U.S. embassy nor Israeli Defence Ministry spokesmen would comment on the issue. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said no warning about the two men passed through his ministry.

Both Gen. Levy and Gen. Lapidot, who is soon to retire, had planned to start a year's study in the United States in September on an Israeli government-sponsored course, a move common among senior Israeli officers, the Israeli military sources said.

Gen. Levy, who left his post in April, was in charge of the Israeli army when Pollard, a U.S. navy civilian intelligence analyst, was secretly recruited in 1984 to gather intelligence in Washington for Israel.

The uncovering of his activities in November 1985 strained ties between Israel and its main ally, the United States.

Soviets warn Israel on nuclear arms

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israeli officials Friday minimised the importance of a Radio Moscow broadcast which cautioned Israel to "think twice" about developing a nuclear-capable missile that could reach the Soviet Union.

The Soviet statement came in a Hebrew-language commentary Thursday. It followed a July 21 report in the Geneva-based International Defence Review claiming Israel had recently tested a nuclear-capable medium-range missile called "Jericho II" in the Mediterranean Sea.

The broadcast urged Israel to "think twice and again about the influence of developing the missile that can strike at the territory of the Soviet Union," Israel Television said.

"By arming itself with this missile, the Israeli army is turning Israel into a party in the world nuclear struggle between the two large (superpower) blocs," the broadcast was quoted as saying by the Israeli newspapers Maariv and Hadashot.

In Beirut, meanwhile, about 5,000 protesters, some chanting "we are Khomeini-guided human

destroyers," burned effigies of U.S. President Ronald Reagan and Kuwait's ruler.

In addition to the life-size models of Mr. Reagan and Kuwaiti ruler Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, they burned effigies of French President Francois Mitterrand and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

The parade protesting against U.S. intervention in the Gulf was organised by Hizbollah (Party of God), a militant faction that

swears allegiance to Iranian ruler Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Hizbollah is an umbrella for underground extremist factions holding many of the 26 foreigners missing or kidnapped in Lebanon since March 1985.

The estimated 5,000 protesters shouted "death to America," "death to Kuwait," as the demonstration wound through the dusty alleys of the Shi'ite slums to converge at the Iranian embassy in south Beirut.

activity in the Gulf indicates just that. "When they see that we are indeed supporting their interests, they are more than willing to come forward and help us and provide support for us," he said.

Officially, the United States is neutral in the Gulf war, despite claims by critics of the reflagging policy that the move is a large step toward taking sides in the conflict.

Adm. Bernsen disagreed with the argument that the reflagging of Kuwaiti tankers means the United States is backing Iraq, but he made clear where he believes American sympathies lie.

"I don't think it's a tilt," he said. "We certainly here in the Gulf have not tilted toward our Gulf Arab friends. We have always been supportive of our Gulf Arab friends."

"Without any relationship to Iran," he added, "I think it could be stated without any equivocation that our sympathies have lain on the side of the Gulf Arabs. Those are the folks I'm concerned about."

U.S. admiral: Arms sales hurt U.S.-Arab ties

ABOARD THE USS KIDD IN THE GULF (AP) — The top American military officer in the Gulf has said that U.S. relations with Arab Nations have been harmed by American weapons sales to Iran.

"I think from a strategic or sort of political-military point of view, there have been complications," said Rear Adm. Harold Bernsen, commander of the Mideast Task Force.

Adm. Bernsen's naval group, based in Bahrain, is responsible for overseeing U.S. interests in the oil-rich Gulf. He spoke Thursday at a news conference aboard the USS Kidd, a destroyer that is one of the ships escorting two reflagged Kuwaiti tankers up the Gulf.

Kuwait's request for the United States to place 11 Kuwaiti tankers under the Stars and Stripes was first made last December, according to an administration chronology of the controversial policy.

That was a month after it was revealed that the White House had secretly been selling missiles to Iran while publicly trying to

block the sale of weapons to that country.

Iran and Iraq have been fighting a bloody war since September 1980, and Kuwait and other Arab Gulf nations have publicly voiced their fears about an Iranian victory.

U.S. congressmen who recently visited the Gulf region said Arab leaders in the area were angry that the United States had been selling weapons to Iran.

Adm. Bernsen, asked if the arms sales had complicated his job, answered, "on a day-to-day basis, no, I don't think it's complicated my task. I think from a strategic or sort of a political-military point of view, there have been complications."

Asked to explain complications, he said, "obviously, it makes folks a little skittish if we claim to support the Gulf Arabs and we are seen to help their declared enemy."

"Their feelings obviously aren't very positive about that sort of thing," he said. But he added that the United States has long been friendly with Gulf Arabs "and I think the recent

French police question Lebanese on Paris bombs

PARIS (R) — One of four Lebanese held by French police for questioning about a Paris bombings campaign had once worked at the Iranian embassy in the French capital, the Interior Ministry has said.

A ministry spokesman said the Lebanese had been a junior employee at the Iranian mission but gave no details of his job or the time of his employment.

He said it was "entirely possible" that the man had contact with the embassy interpreter at the centre of a diplomatic confrontation between France and Iran.

The interpreter, Vahid Gordji, has been holed up in the embassy for more than three weeks to avoid testifying about a wave of bombings in Paris last year that killed 13 people.

France broke off diplomatic relations with Iran last Friday over Gordji's refusal to leave the mission, which has been under tight police surveillance since the dispute started.

The ministry spokesman, however, denied press reports that testimony by the Lebanese had directly linked Gordji to last September's string of five bomb attacks.

But he said the former Iranian

embassy employee and the three other Lebanese had been questioned Thursday by Judge Gilles Bouloque, who is leading the investigation into the bombings. It is the same judge who issued a summons demanding that Gordji face questioning on the attacks.

Meanwhile the French daily Liberation reported that France's counterintelligence agency said in a report to Premier Jacques Chirac that Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini personally approved last year's terrorist bombings in Paris.

Interior Minister Charles Pasqua, responsible for the agency, the Direction de Surveillance Du Territoire (DST), said the newspaper report was wrong.

Mr. Pasqua told French radio, "we have never directly implicated the Iranian state" in connection with the bombings.

"On the other hand, what is sure is that a certain number of people arrested were linked directly to Islamic fundamentalist circles," Mr. Pasqua said.

Liberation said a 60-page top secret DST report to Mr. Chirac analysed the workings and direction of the network believed to have set off the bombs.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	19:30	Date with a Star
Tel: 773111-19	20:00	Now Music
	20:30	Discovering Music
	21:00	Play of the Week
	21:30	Country Music
	22:00	Classical Music
	24:00	Close Down
BBC WORLD SERVICE		
639, 720, 1323 KHz	07:00	Newsday 07:30 Here's Humphrey
	07:45	Reflections 07:50 Financial News
	08:00	World News 08:00 24 Hours
	08:30	News Summary 08:30 Society Today
	08:45	The World Today 08:50 Newsday
	09:20	Meridian 10:00 World News
	10:00	24 Hours: News Summary 10:30
	10:30	From the Weeklies 10:30 Network UK
	11:00	World News 11:00 World Reflections
	11:25	A Jolly Good Show 12:00 World News
	12:00	British Press Review 12:15
	12:30	The World Today 12:30 Financial News
	12:45	Society Today 13:00 News Summary
	13:15	Here's Humphrey 13:15 Letter from America
	13:30	15:30 People and Politics 14:00 About Britain 14:15 Sports
	14:30	World News 14:30 Meridian 15:00
	15:15	Newsday 15:15 Music for the Sun King
	15:45	Sports Roundup 16:00 World News
	16:30	News Summary 16:30 Network UK 16:45
	16:50	Saturday Special 17:00 News Summary
	17:30	Saturday Special 17:30 Saturday Special 18:00 Radio News 18:15
	18:30	Saturday Special 18:30 World News 18:45
	19:00	Commentary 19:15 Saturday Special 19:15 News Summary
	19:30	Saturday Special 19:30 Sports Roundup
	20:00	Newsday 20:30 Promenade Concert 22:00 Promenade Concert
	22:30	World News 23:00 24 Hours: News Summary 23:30 Jazz for the Asking
	24:00	Newsday Summary: Characters at Court 06:15 Proms Review
RADIO JORDAN		
855 KHz: AM & 99 MHz: FM & partly on 2680 KHz, SW		
Tel: 77111-19		
	07:00	Morning Show
	07:30	Newsday
	08:00	Morning Show
	10:00	News Summary
	10:30	Morning Show Cont.
	11:00	The Guitar Greats
	12:00	News Summary
	12:30	28 years of American Top Ten Hits
	13:00	News Summary
	13:30	Pop Session
	14:00	News Bulletin
	14:30	Jordan Weekly
	15:00	Concert Hour
	16:00	News Summary
	16:30	Instrumental Old favourites
	17:00	Special Feature
	17:30	Music
	18:00	News Summary
	18:30	Top Twenty
	19:00	Newsday/Music
VOICE OF AMERICA		
MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz		
	06:00	News 06:10 VOA Morning 07:00
	07:10	VOA Morning 08:00 News 09:10
	09:10	VOA Morning 10:00 News 10:10
	10:10	Closure 10:30 Press Conference, USA
	10:45	19:00 News 19:10 American Viewpoints
	19:30	19:30 Special English News
	20:00	News Summary 20:10 Weekend
	21:00	News 21:10 Closure 21:30 Special English News & Features 22:00
	22:00	News 22:10 American Viewpoints
	22:30	Press Conference, USA 23:00
	23:00	News 23:10 Music USA Jazz 23:55
	24:00	Editorial 24:00 News 06:10 Weekend

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* A photographic exhibition by Zohrab at the Royal Cultural Centre (until July 25).

* Plastic art exhibition at the University of Jordan.

* A combined exhibition of pressed flowers and water colours by Hind Lara Manna and Tracy Barnum at the gallery of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel (until August 6).

* South Theatre: 9-11 — Caracalla Sing Group "Echoes"

* Sound & Light: 8-9 — Children's Play: Butterflies

Dancing

9:30-10:30 — French Trapeze Troupe

Performance

* Forum: 6-7 — Jordan Armed Forces Band

7:30-9 — Local Folk Groups

JERASH FESTIVAL (July 8-31)

* South Theatre: 9-11 — Caracalla Sing Group "Echoes"

* Sound & Light: 8-9 — Children's Play: Butterflies

Dancing

9:30-10:30 — French Trapeze Troupe

Performance

* Forum: 6-7 — Jordan Armed Forces Band

7:30-9 — Local Folk Groups

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre .. Tel. 661036/7

American Centre .. 644371

British Council .. 641520

French Cultural Centre .. 636147/8

Goethe Institute .. 637009

Soviet Cultural Centre .. 644203

Spanish Cultural Centre .. 624049

Turkish Cultural Centre .. 639777

Haya Arts Centre .. 667181/6

Husseini Youth City .. 641993

Y.W.C.A. .. 641793

Y.W.M.C.A. .. 647251

Amman Municipal Library .. 637111

Univ. of Jordan Library .. 843555

MUSEUMS

"Children's Heritage and Science Museum" Fun and knowledge for all

ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.

Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculptures by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Mounted in the Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m. - 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed Tuesdays. Tel. 630128.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Fayez calls House to session today

AMMAN (Petra) — Lower House Speaker Akef Al Fayez has called the House's Financial Committee to session today to finalise its report on the Audit Bureau's report for the year 1985. Mr. Fayez has also called the House for session on Tuesday, July 28, to discuss a number of subjects on the House's agenda.

Nimr receives Iraqi ambassador

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Foreign Affairs Under Secretary Nabih Al Nimr Thursday received Iraq's ambassador to Jordan Ghafel Jasse Hussein and discussed with him the recent United Nations Security Council resolution, calling for an immediate end to the Iran-Iraq war and Iraq's positive response to the resolution. Mr. Nimr also received Greek ambassador to Jordan Hannibal Velliadis and discussed with him a number of issues of mutual interest. They also exchanged views on Jordan's efforts to hold an international peace conference in the region.

Health council discusses West Bank

AMMAN (Petra) — Higher Health Council's committee for the West Bank held discussions on employment in the health sector in the occupied Arab territories. During its meeting the committee also discussed developing employment in the health field. The committee also reviewed a number of issues related to modernising medical equipment used in West Bank hospitals.

University begins accepting applications

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan begins accepting applications today from students wishing to study at the university's various faculties for the academic year 1987/1988. The university, which will continue to accept applications until Aug. 13, will not accept any applications presented to it directly by students. They should be sent through the mail. The university called on students living abroad to send their applications through the Jordanian embassies and cultural attaches in the countries where they are residing.

Egyptian ambassador marks independence

AMMAN (Petra) — Egyptian ambassador in Amman Ihab Wabbeh hosted a reception at his residence on the occasion of the 35th anniversary of the July 23 revolution. The reception was attended by Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Lawzi, Lower House of Parliament Speaker Akef Al Fayez, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, a number of ministers, heads of Arab and foreign diplomatic missions in Amman, a number of senior civil and military officials and invited guests.

Arab economic chambers to meet today

AMMAN (Petra) — Heads of Arab chambers of commerce, industry and agriculture will open their meetings here today to discuss cooperation among them to develop the Arab economy. Participants will also discuss the role of Arab chambers in strengthening trade relations between Arab and foreign countries.

Heart transplant patient reported in good condition

AMMAN (J.T.) — Hussein Mahmoud Al Abbadi, who underwent successful heart transplant surgery Thursday, was reported to be in good condition Friday, according to a doctor at the Queen Alia Heart Institute at the King Hussein Medical Centre.

Mr. Abbadi, 31, received the heart of Mohammad Ibrahim Hamed Al Qatawneh, 25, who suffered a brain hemorrhage Tuesday only hours after arriving from the Soviet Union. Mr. Qatawneh remained in a coma until Thursday, when he was pronounced brain dead.

A 6-member surgical team, headed by Dr. Dawoud Hana-niyah, then implanted Mr. Abbadi with the new heart, making the operation the 6th successful heart transplant to take place in Jordan.

Mr. Abbadi was suffering from congestive heart disease and was taken to King Hussein Medical Centre a month ago and remained under treatment until a donor could be found. Mr. Abbadi is expected to be discharged from the hospital in two weeks, according to doctors attending him.

Work begins on 3 health centres in Balqa area

AMMAN (Petra) — Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh laid the foundation stones for three health centres in the Balqa area costing a total of JD 500,000 and opened the Abu Nuseir health centre.

Dr. Hamzeh said that the construction of new health centres to provide primary health care (PHC) comes in implementation of the Ministry of Health's comprehensive plan for providing health services to all citizens in different parts of the Kingdom through the establishment of health centres.

One of the three health centres in Balqa is located in Al Baq' area, on the outskirts of Salt, and is to cost JD 200,000. The second health centre, to cost JD 100,000, is in Za'atari and Hudeib areas. The third, to cost almost JD 200,000, is being constructed in

Ain Al Basha, near Baqaa camp for Palestine refugees.

Attending the ceremonies Thursday were director of health department in Balqa Governorate, Balqa Governor Mujib Al Khreisha, director of police department in Balqa and heads of municipal and village councils.

Tenders for equipment and furnishings for the ministry's PHC centres project are expected to issue before the end of this year, according to the Middle East Business Intelligence magazine.

Under the \$30.5 million PHC programme, for which the World Bank is providing \$13.5 million, 25 new PHC centres and 13 comprehensive health care centres, which will be staffed and equipped to provide medical care not requiring a hospital stay, are to be built.

1st panel on strategy in Arab World to be held

CAIRO (Petra) — The first Arab strategic conference is to be held in Amman, sponsored by jointly by the Cairo-based Centre for Political and Strategic Studies at Al-Ahram Press Foundation and the University of Jordan's Centre for Strategic Studies.

The conference will discuss the following issues: the current Arab situation and future developments, Arab economic policies,

and the Iran-Iraq war and the Arab-Israeli conflict, especially the Israeli nuclear threat.

The panel will also touch upon the Lebanese civil war and its dangers to the region.

The date of the conference is yet to be determined.

The purpose of the conference is to develop strategic thinking among the Arab World's foreign policy experts.

Union vows to defend workers' rights
President pledges battle against 'backward' labour laws

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The General Union of Bank, Insurance and Accounting Employees Friday vowed to use "all means available" to defend the rights of bank employees after the forced resignation of at least 32 employees by the management of two foreign banks, and after reports that several others may face the same fate.

The union's president, Haidar Rashid, addressing a rally held at the Concorde Theatre, condemned the mass dismissal taken by the Grindlays Bank Ltd. and the British Bank of the Middle East — both British banks — and said the move was arbitrary and unjustified.

Delivering a speech attended by nearly 200 people, including officials from several professional associations, labour unions and bank employees, Mr. Rashid described the recent firings as "dangerous developments that do not concern bank employees alone, but all professionals — making the problem a national cause."

He said laying off bank employees came as a direct result of "the backwardness of the labour law and the lack of labour unity and government action."

"For a long time, workers have been losing their jobs, rights and privileges because the present labour law does not guarantee real protection of these rights," Mr. Rashid said. On the other hand, he said, "seeking protection by civil courts is a very difficult and complicated process."

The union's president said that under the present labour laws, which he described as "backward," employers would not need a justification for laying off employees on their staff. "For the workers," he said, "the result is disastrous."

The legislation adopted nearly a quarter of a century ago, he said, "does not provide for a minimum of protection of workers' rights and interests." He said the union would continue demanding changes in labour laws.

"We will fight this battle to the end — even if we have to go around the law or bypass it

altogether," Mr. Rashid told the rally.

He stressed the necessity for coordination between professional associations and labour unions in the country in "facing the common cause of fighting unemployment by establishing a general professional and labour association."

He demanded an immediate amendment to the labour law in a way that guarantees workers' rights and privileges without referring disputes to civil courts "and their known complications."

He urged the Ministry of Labour and Social Development to act more firmly in carrying out measures that guarantee the jobs of workers and to deal with labour problems "faster and in a more serious manner."

Foreign labour

Reviewing Jordan's labour market, Mr. Rashid said that hundreds of thousands of Jordanians taking jobs in the Gulf area and other countries "have created a gap in the local labour market

that had to be filled by adopting an open door policy to fill this gap." He said that hundreds of thousands of foreign workers were brought in, filling jobs ranging from manual labour to highly-skilled professional work.

He said the presence of foreign workers in Jordan was very damaging for local manpower and resulted in weakening union work and lowering wages of Jordanian workers.

Mr. Rashid said the recent developments in the labour market have resulted in a growing number of mass layoffs, a halt in salary increases, the cutting of staff and expenses, and the withdrawal of benefits and rights that workers previously enjoyed. He said these actions are now being taken by employers in various sectors, in addition to the banking sector.

He criticised bank management for not finding "more reasonable and realistic ways to strengthen their financial status."

Pressures to resign

He said that laying off bank employees took different forms including the use of "the stick and carrot policy" by threatening them with loss of their work benefits and compensations if they did not resign or offering some financial benefits to resign rather than face a dismissal.

Two bank employees told the Jordan Times that some bank managers were using different methods to force employees to resign by transferring them to

bank branches in remote areas in the Kingdom.

"The situation is ridiculous," one employee said. "All of a sudden, they discovered they don't need a dozen employees here and a dozen there... it's terrible."

The "firing" of employees started on an individual level "to serve as test balloons," and then the summary dismissals started, Mr. Rashid said.

The forced resignation of 18 employees in the British Bank of the Middle East and 14 employees of the Grindlays Bank last month prompted action by the union through the Ministry of Labour and Social Development which held negotiations with the management of the two banks. The two banks reportedly made tentative commitments not to go on with their dismissals.

According to banking sources, the Cairo-Amman management is planning to take measures to lay off an unspecified number of its employees. "We have informed the ministry and demanded a halt on the dismissal decision," Mr. Rashid earlier told the Jordan Times. The union also involved the central council for the Federation of Jordanian Labour Union.

The number of bank employees threatened with dismissal is much greater, Mr. Rashid urged all bank employees in Jordan not to respond to management pressure. "Unfortunately," he said, "those who have agreed to resign have lost all chances to return to their jobs."

Training vital for aviation sector — Ghandour

AMMAN (Petra) — Chairman of the Board of Directors and Executive President of Royal Jordanian (RJ) Ali Ghandour said that the future of the aviation industry in the Arab World is linked with the continuous training of personnel, so they can cope with developments in aviation.

Addressing participants in the Arab Air Carriers Organisation's (AACO) training committee meeting, which began Thursday, Mr. Ghandour said the large attendance by representatives of Arab airline companies reflects

the recognition by these companies of the importance of training.

He called for expediting work on the creation of the Arab Aviation Academy, saying that it is of vital significance to the Arab air aviation carriers. He also called for establishing a pan-Arab training centre to serve all airline companies operating in the Middle East region. He added, that the International Air Transport Association (IATA) has expressed readiness to support such a centre, which will be similar to

those set up in Africa, Far East and South America.

Mr. Ghandour pointed out that the existence of giant airline companies makes it incumbent on smaller airline companies to merge together in order to compete.

AACO Secretary General Adli Dajani stressed the importance of such a meeting.

The AACO's training committee groups representatives for the RJ, Gulf Air, Saudia, Sudan Airline, Middle East, Kuwaiti Airline, Libyan Airline, Yemenia.

Caracalla Dance Theatre 'echoes' with Arab traditions, culture

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "Echoes," the name of the Caracalla Dance Theatre's show, resonates with the sound of the past and present. The first part of the show is from the archives of the Caracalla group throughout the last 20 years: a repertoire that shows the development of the Lebanese group.

The second part of the show is about a young man from a small Lebanese village, played by British dancer Peter Wood, who is terrified of going through with his traditional marriage. He is afraid of losing his freedom. His fear drives him to fall into an emotional coma, when he withdraws into himself. He is transferred from his reality (his friends and relatives' preparation and celebration of the wedding) to fantasy.

His coma takes him to the desert where a bedouin wedding is taking place and where he sees the beauty and nature of bedouin folklore. The young man enjoys his fantasy. But when the fantasy is over, he realises that he does not belong to the desert way of life.

The groom has learned a lesson from his journey and returns to reality where he finds his bride, friends, and relatives waiting for him. The festivities begin showing the happy groom in the traditional occasion.

Caracalla's unique style of mixing Arab folklore with modern dance and ballet is exceptional. As one theatre director and fan out it to the Jordan Times: "Caracalla is the only group who has renovated Arab folklore, and justly portrays a respectable image of Arab culture."

Creator, writer, choreographer, and director Mr. Abdul Halim Caracalla, said that the second part of "Echoes" shows that the Lebanese people are still alive, even with the death inflicted by the Lebanese war. The artistic work, he said, helps to dispel the Western and Zionist stereotype that Arabs are ragheads and terrorists on camels in the desert smoking their *arghees* (water pipes) and watching erotic belly dancers.

The first part of the performance is a message in the historical dimension between the past and the present of the Arab cultural identity. Caracalla group takes pride in Arab folklore. "If there is no culture, there is no identity," Mr. Caracalla told a large group of journalists Thursday.

For Mr. Caracalla, Arab folklore is culturally the richest in the world, and the most beautiful. This is why the group has not run out of new ideas over the past 20 years. "There is so much beauty to work with," he said. He added that if he was only working with Lebanese folklore, the group would have failed and vanished at an early stage because of repetition.

People who manage the group research Arab folklore everywhere. Caracalla, therefore, prefers to think of itself as an Arab group rather than only a Lebanese group. The group uses all the different Arab costumes, dialects, rituals, dances and songs. For Caracalla, the Arab person, land, identity and the Arab song is one, undivided, and through this unity Arab culture is preserved.

A Caracalla fan and journalist stated her fear that the group might decline like other well-known Arab groups have in the past. Commenting on this point, Mr. Caracalla said that he would rather compare his group with internationally popular ballets and groups who have preserved their standards. This keeps his group at a high standard.

"And every ballet group keeps developing," he continued. "When I find new talents, new blood, and continue research into Arab folklore, I have new shows to write, because every period of time has its own developed art. This way we keep up with time, so hopefully we keep up with international standards," added Mr. Caracalla, who has his own dance school. He noted that some of his dances temporarily join well-known ballets, and that foreign dancers performed with the Arab troupe.

Mr. Caracalla asserted that ballets in the Soviet Union and the West are protected and supported: in the Soviet Union by the state, and in capitalist societies by public and private enterprises. The Arab artist continued that in many Arab countries this is not the case. "Arab countries have been generous by inviting us to perform. But the problem is with the officials in charge of culture: The officials usually chosen are themselves not cultured and not well-versed in Arab culture," Mr. Caracalla said.

In response to a charge made by a Jordanian female reporter that Arab cultural groups usually portray a "weak, feminine, and oppressed women," a Caracalla dancer, Natasha, answered that the Arab woman is actually very sensual, "which is good." She continued: "The woman plays a very important role in our traditional society. And she can become a 'man' through her femininity." Natasha gave an example of Caracalla's "The Rape," where the women of the village invite the colonising soldiers and dance temptingly with sensuality that makes the soldiers weak. "The women take their revenge through their femininity," explained the young dancer.

Caracalla's performance should not be missed by those who want to enjoy an excellent show of Arab folklore, mixed harmoniously with classical ballet and modern dance. Caracalla aims to instill pride in Arabs by portraying the beauty of the folklore and culture.

Tonight is the second and final performance for the internationally recognised troupe between 9 p.m. and 11 p.m. at the South Theatre in the ancient city of Jerash.



Photos by Youssef Al 'Allan



The 35 member local folklore group, Al Fubeis Music Group, sing traditional songs in colourful costumes, (above) while the Moroccan Andalusian troupe echo the sound of ancient Andalusia at the Artemis Steps with the night sky and the town of Jerash for the backdrop (below).

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Renowned Egyptian singer, Iman Baher Darwish, captivates audiences with beautiful songs at the South Theatre Wednesday and Thursday.

Egyptian singer draws on grandfather's greatness

By Jordan Times
Staff Reporters

AMMAN — Sounds of the past were brought back to the present on the historic amphitheatre in Jerash as the compositions of the great Egyptian composer Sayyid Darwish gripped the audience's hearts and souls through the softly expressive voice of his grandson, Iman Baher Darwish.

The Jerash audience Wednesday and Thursday nights seemed overwhelmed by the strength of the words, of the voice, and last but not least, of the handsome face of the naturally tanned man, who was able to love his audience and be loved back so easily through what could be only be described as the most moving performance in Jerash.

"I can't find a suitable word to describe my feeling of happiness with this outstanding night... most important of which was my gratitude and surprise at the welcome I received from the Jordanian audience," Mr. Darwish said to journalists Thursday morning after his first performance in Jerash.

Waves of people moved in rhythm, swaying from side to side, as Iman Baher (the faith of the sea) brought back to them beautiful pictures of clear sea water, of sandy hills and deserts. He then brought them back to reality and drew them pictures of freedom, of love and of heritage. Mr. Darwish said that he felt

"satisfied at being able to show people the real Sayyid Darwish as he would have liked to be seen." But he also added that he was not only an extension of his grandfather but rather he used his grandfather's compositions, and along with a group, wrote the words that depicted the lives today.

"My grandfather was a composer, I am a singer. We are different, yet I feel that real musical composition could only have come from Sayyid Darwish," he said.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Darwish said he supported the belief of his grandfather that the people are the real artists, and the singer is only a link between the words and the people.

The basic themes of his songs, he said, are subjects firmly based in reality, despite their ethereal beauty. "I sing of many things that show what is really going on," he said.

Mr. Darwish dedicated his second performance to the Palestinian cartoonist, Naji Al Ali Adhami, who was shot Wednesday in London by an unknown assailant.

At the young age of 32, Mr. Darwish has achieved popularity throughout the Arab World. Born in Alexandria, Egypt, he presently lives in Cairo with his wife, Samia, and his two children, Islam and Ummiya.

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Editor-in-Chief:

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Editorial and advertising offices:

Jordan Press Foundation,

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ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Friday's

Al Ra'i: Are they for real peace?

THE interest expressed by the Arabs nowadays, in the United Nations Security Council resolution on the Iran-Iraq war is no surprise. It is a natural response to the resolution which called for putting an end to the destruction war and for withdrawal of all warring parties to internationally recognised borders. However, it is hoped that the resolution be implemented, averting the region more destruction and havoc. The U.N. Security Council resolution, which is considered as a victory for the peace cause arouses many questions about the United States political stands vis-a-vis the Middle East. These questions focus on whether the United States is willing and determined to follow suit by adopting a decisive stand towards Israel, which is practising all forms of atrocities against Palestinians. Will the resolution prompt the U.S. to take part in the proposed international peace conference? designed to establish peace and security in the region? The U.S. should remember that the Israeli aggression on the Arab Nation is no less grave and dangerous than the Iranian aggression on Iraq. It should also bear in mind that work for peace is an integrated process and that credibility in restoring peace and stability in the Gulf region entails a similar and parallel integrity in restoring peace and stability to the region as a whole and putting an end to the Israeli arrogance and intransigence. The U.N. Security Council will gain a new momentum if the United States is able to prove that it respects and supports the international will, that has supported the call for holding an international peace conference.

Al Dustour: Blackmail?

THE recent news about Israel's military power and its intentions to manufacture medium range missiles that could reach distant targets in the Arab World came as an assurance of the ill-harboured Israeli intentions and plans, designed to continue its aggressive policy in the region. These plans are also genuine indicators that Israel has never worked for peace. The statements made by some Israeli leaders are no more than manoeuvres aimed at gaining time until all its military preparation are over. The Israeli leadership has always been acting against all peaceful initiatives, including the proposed international peace conference, which has been accepted by all Arabs and has been supported by the international community. The last Israeli trick in the series of Zionist procrastination is the Israeli prime minister's recent proposal to hold a regional conference, rather than an international peace conference. The proposed regional conference called for by Yitzhak Shamir is designed to blow up all peaceful efforts, place Arabs before a de facto situation and impose Israel's conditions on them. The recent news about the development of the Israeli war machinery is a cheap blackmailing of the international community at large, with the aim of drawing the attention of the superpowers to the Israeli role, even in the Gulf region, cannot and should not be ignored. It is another way of saying that an end to the Iran-Iraq war does not mean an end to the turbulent situation in the Arab region, and that such an end cannot bring about peace. However, and realising that most of the news about development of Israeli war machinery are not but a kind of psychic war, we should treat such news seriously and deal with it as if it exists.

Sawt Al Shaab: Bread for Lebanon

THE demonstration organised by starving people, which roamed the streets of the Lebanese capital, Beirut, few days ago, was a reaffirmation that the economic situation in that country is seriously deteriorating and that the advertisements we see in newspapers about families offering their children for sale are true and not mere exaggeration as many people would tend to believe. The current choking economic situation in Lebanon and the starvation striking hard at the poor strata of society has placed Lebanon in a state of real poverty, which is the natural outcome of a severe civil war that has torn off the country. It is therefore not strange for a Lebanese citizen to feel that the state of war is even more easier for him than hunger and starvation. Realising that the war was responsible for the deteriorating living conditions and for the hunger, the Lebanese staged a comprehensive strike on Wednesday against war, and decided to escalate their strike until their suffering is felt. Once again, the Lebanese people are escalating their cries for the provision of bread first and then for security. However, it would have been much better if both the loaf and security could be secured within an integrated approach or solution.

Thursday's

Al Ra'i: Reflagging and opportunism

THE United Nations Security Council resolution on ending the Gulf conflict did not require an American show of force in the Gulf zone, which started hours after its adoption, to corroborate it. The resolution draws its power from the international legitimacy and a unanimity, unprecedented in the council's history. Therefore, the American show of force in the Gulf which was carefully chosen to appear at this time will not help the cause of the resolution's implementation. It should be stated that the resolution was passed with the purpose of ending a tragedy which has lasted for seven years and is not designed to serve as an abstract move. No one supports Iran's threats to international navigation in the Gulf region, but at the same time we want to see the Security Council resolution respected and implemented and we want to avoid any moves that could present the resolution as supporting foreign military presence. We cannot but deplore Iran's decision to reject the council's resolution; but we also express our surprise over the timing of the emergence of the American naval power in the Gulf, because any show of force at this moment would not help the cause of stability and peace in the Gulf.

Al Dustour: Iran finds the going tough

WE were not surprised to see Iran rejecting the U.N. Security Council resolution, demanding a ceasefire and an end to the conflict in the Gulf. We know that Tehran is still holding on to its intransigent position and that the Iranian rulers are adamant in their position, refusing all peace bids as they did over the past seven years. Despite their determination in this rejection the Iranians will find it rather difficult to maintain this position and their disregard of the Security Council's resolution which has won the unanimous support of all nations. If Iran persists in this adamant stand it will find itself further isolated from the international community with the nose tightening around it. The fast moving developments in the Gulf waters will make it more and more difficult for Iran to manoeuvre and to exercise its blackmail policies against Arab states in the Gulf in a desperate move to lure these states away from helping and backing Iraq. The overwhelming support from around the world for the Security Council's resolution is also bound to place more and more pressures on Iran and deprive its rulers from any support for any of its moves and its present position.

VIEW FROM AMMAN

Arab politics in crisis: The way out

By Kamel S. Abu Jaber

IS the political crisis of the contemporary Arab World a remediless chronic condition or is there a way out; a hope that things will improve? It was necessary at the outset to concentrate on identifying the negative aspects, not in the spirit of self-flagellation or destructive criticism, but to pave the way for a consideration of possible solutions. Surely there is hope in a nation that has, over the centuries, been able to regenerate itself. Often this process of regeneration took a long time giving those impatient, lacking in self-confidence, or naturally masochistic intellectuals fodder for their literature of despair. But even such literature should be recognised, and maybe appreciated for the jolting shocks it can produce. The hope in the future rests on several factors that should be taken into consideration. The first is that we Arabs are now, and have been for the past few generations, caught in the grip of a tremendous upheaval in our lives: Political, social, economic, spiritual, intellectual, and moral. It is an historic, monumental change whose depth and dimension is bound to cause much confusion, soul-searching, and many errors. The challenge posed by the materialistic Western civilisation is not ours alone but of all other contemporary civilisations as well: Chinese, Indian, Latin American, African, or Asian. We are not alone in searching for some identity, a place in the sun, though we often seem alone due to the vehement, sometimes venomous way in which we are singled out as targets, candidates for special "attention", distortion of image, even slander.

The next factor of hope is a belief in the inner strength of the Arab civilisation and the stamina of the nation to endure hardships. Our defeats thus far have been technological, not civilisational defeats. Technology which we still import will eventually be

digested and tamed. Just consider the advances thus far made and in a short period too. Only one generation ago most of the population of the Arab World lacked even the very basic amenities of life and languished in the fatalism of the ages. The ferment that is taking place now is a healthy one though it sometimes secretes undesirable. The mind that has until recently been held in the tight hold of the straight jacket of traditionalism is being freed though it often seems too painfully slowly. Before Russia produced its revolution, or for that matter Britain or France, it experienced, like these and others a long period of decay leading to ferment and then a regeneration. The challenge is usually as big as the challenged.

The questions we face are not those of bread and butter but questions of destiny, direction and way of life. In our awakening to the modern world we were, as we still are, shocked by the discovery of how many inadequacies we had accumulated over the centuries of decadence. Though each day seems to bring a new challenge, sometimes even a novel humiliation, we are still, by and large, somehow held together. A nation is defeated when it loses its spirit and its will. Our will, our capacity for resilience is still intact though, at times, despair sets in.

Hope rests equally on the belief that the post 1967 defeat has had a sobering effect on both the leaders and the masses of the Arab World alike. Gone seem to be the days when we gave ourselves with abandon to the literature of wishful thinking and day dreams: when the Arab street was infused with irresponsible political rhetoric like a balloon blown out of proportion. The reaction has been that of extremes as well as centrist: Opposing religious fundamentalism, a haven for people in trouble; and searching is a trend, though sometimes feeble, towards some form of secularism.

In between, a rational centre, though still weak, has appeared. Surely the fanaticism of Jewish fundamentalism and Zionist intransigence has produced not only a counter reaction but a by-product of rationality as well.

Time heals all wounds in one way or another. What we need first and foremost is time to continue assessing what is happening and delineating the way ahead. Neither Iran nor Israel wants us to have that time, but we must search for ways to contain both dangers. Both are fundamentalist and fanatic in religious terms and both are keen on breaking our spirit or at least reducing us to the proportions they desire for us. Both are challenges not over real estate alone, but for the control and the hegemony over the entire centre, at least the Mashreq, militarily, economically and spiritually. Both are efficient, volatile, dynamic, capable and willing to inflict harm on us. That is why we need time: Time to put our house in order and to think, assess and plan for the future. We neither need the self-indulgent inflammatory rhetoric of the nineteen fifties, nor the self-deprecating, will destroying and destructive masochistic self-criticism of today's intellectuals.

Somehow we must find a way to bring an end to the Iraq-Iran war. This in order not only to contain Iran but hopefully to turn it into an ally, its existence has never been questioned by the Arabs. Somehow we must also find some way to force Israel to conclude an honourable settlement and in the meantime not to give it any excuse, as we have done in the past, to attack and further expand.

It is obvious that we have not been able to develop and defend ourselves at the same time. That is why this period of respite is the first step on our way out of the crisis of our lives.

Double zero option guarantees Asian security

By E. Ryabstev

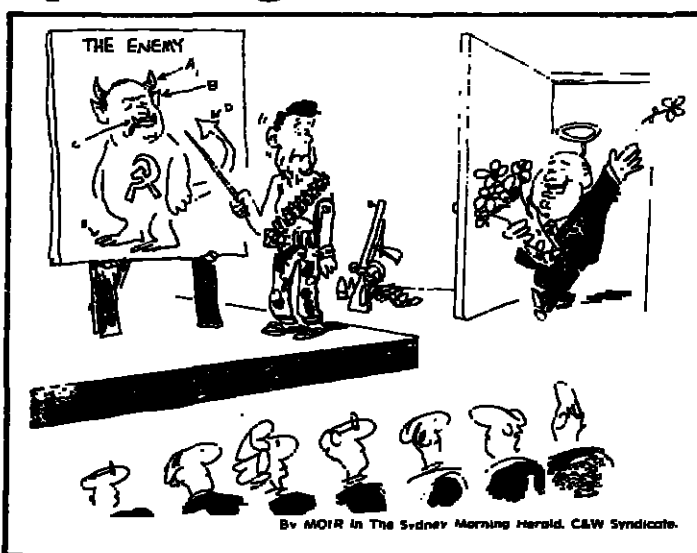
MOSCOW (APN) — The Soviet Union is prepared to abolish all its medium-range missiles, including operational-tactical ones, on its Asian territory, in order to promote the "double zero option" concept on a global scale. This was stated by Mikhail Gorbachev when answering questions put to him by the Indonesian newspaper Merdeka on the anniversary of Gorbachev's Vladivostok programme for comprehensive security in the Asian-Pacific Region (APR).

This step by the Soviet leadership confirms Moscow's serious and responsible approach to the aspirations of the Asian states, which want to strengthen security in their region. For this reason the Soviet Union decided against linking the elimination of its medium-range missiles with American nuclear weapons deployed in South Korea, the Philippines and on Diego Garcia island. At the same time, the

Soviet leader expressed the hope that the U.S. would not increase its nuclear arsenals in the APR.

Furthermore, Mikhail Gorbachev put forward a series of new initiatives aimed at easing military confrontation in the region. Among them is the USSR's readiness to assume an obligation not to increase in its Asian territory the number of nuclear-capable aircraft if the U.S. does not deploy there additional nuclear weapons capable of reaching Soviet territory. His proposals also envisage limiting the range of action of ships carrying nuclear weapons, rivalry in anti-submarine activity and contemplate heavy cuts in the scale of exercises and manoeuvres by navies in the Pacific and Indian oceans.

Moscow proposed to Washington the testing of a "model" of such exercises in the northern Pacific so that the model could later be spread to other areas. At the same time the Soviet leader confirmed the USSR's readiness



to help provide international guarantees for safe navigation in the Indian Ocean, its seas, gulfs and bays.

Gorbachev confirmed Moscow's conviction that regional conflicts can be resolved only by

the policy of national concord and the possibility of creating a coalition of national forces. Having expressed deep concern at the escalation of tensions in the Gulf, Mr. Gorbachev stressed that the Iran-Iraq war is now challenging the ability of the international community to put an end to it.

Moscow persistently strives to implement its Vladivostok programme of lasting and comprehensive security in the APR.

In November last year Gorbachev and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi signed the Delhi declaration on a nuclear-free and non-violent world. The declaration's philosophical and moral basis gives priority to universal values and is aimed at preventing a nuclear catastrophe.

Acting in the mainstream of the new foreign policy approach to the APR, the Soviet foreign minister visited in March this year Thailand, Australia, Indonesia, Laos, Kampuchea and Vietnam. The Kremlin was pleased to note that leaders of these countries advocated the establishment of a durable system of security in the APR. This was also confirmed by the visit of Thailand's Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetsila to the USSR. Interest in such security was shown by the intention to set up a zone of peace in South East Asia, free of nuclear weapons, an intention clearly stated at a recent annual conference of ASEAN foreign ministers in Singapore.

Mikhail Gorbachev, speaking at a Kremlin reception in honour of visiting Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi said that not a single country, not a single group of countries could monopolise the functions of an architect and builder of comprehensive security in the APR. By doing so Moscow emphasised that in this process each country of the region can

play an important and constructive role.

Not surprisingly, the Soviet policy of détente, open to all, has stirred into action the political forces of the region. Plans to visit Moscow have been announced by the Prime Minister of Malaysia and leaders of Indonesia. The reason for such moves in the APR, Thailand's foreign minister recently noted, stems from the new trend in Soviet foreign policy, initiated by Mr. Gorbachev.

The answers given by the Soviet leader to the questions of the newspaper Merdeka are evidence that he is constantly seeking to impart dynamism in the movement for comprehensive security in the APR. The development of dialogue between the USSR and Asian countries, in turn, indicates a desire of these countries to make their positive contribution to the process. All this conclusively confirms the fact that the Vladivostok programme of the Soviet leader meets the vital interests of all countries in the Asia-Pacific Region.

U.S.-flag tanker limps to Kuwait after hitting mine

(Continued from page 1)

policy escorting non-American ships in the Gulf, he said, "Only the kind of continuing review that this policy is always under, but no special changes that I am aware of."

"The striking of this mine points out one of the major points that had been the basis for our policy, which is the almost-indiscriminate danger that is in the Gulf, to international shipping," he said.

At the Pentagon, officials who asked not to be identified said that based on preliminary evidence it appeared the mine had been moored to the bottom of the Gulf, floating at about six metres below the surface.

The officials based that assessment on the fact the mine appeared to have detonated underneath the tanker and not along its hull.

"To the best of our knowledge, that section of the Gulf has never been searched for mines," said one source.

Fitzwater told reporters the United States had carried out a mine-sweeping operation in the Strait of Hormuz and near

Kuwait, with the help of Saudi Arabia, but he could not say whether there were plans for further sweeping operations.

He noted that no minesweepers were in the convoy escorting the Kuwaiti tanker, and said "the mine was placed in open waters. It could have struck any ship. It wouldn't have made any difference if we hadn't been there."

Fitzwater indicated administration officials weren't particularly surprised by the incident, saying "it's clear that mines in the Gulf were part of the equation considered from the beginning."

"It's not unanticipated," he said of the danger. But the spokesman also said the mine struck by the Bridgeton "was in a deep water channel, and we might not have anticipated it in this area."

Fitzwater said congressional leaders will be kept informed, but said no consideration has been given to invoking provisions of the War Powers Act requiring formal notification.

The explosion occurred more than 100 miles from Kuwait's main terminal of Al Ahmadi.

The Al Ahmadi approaches were earlier reported cleared of

mines by a team of U.S. experts working with the Kuwaitis.

"The key to note here about that mine was that it was more than 40 miles south of where any previous Iranian mines have been found," said one U.S. official.

The United States said earlier that about a dozen mines had been found moored in international waters near the entrance to Al Ahmadi and had been detonated. Kuwait has said Iran was responsible for these mines.

In initial reaction to the

Bridgeton incident, U.S. senators said it would be foolish for Washington to retaliate over what they called a sign of the dangers in the Gulf.

"This is one of the things we foresaw — one of the perils of the administration's ill-conceived plan," Senate majority leader Robert Byrd told reporters.

"Fortunately no lives were lost," The Democratic senator said the incident demonstrated Mr. Reagan's Gulf policy was "traught with peril."

Aziz holds talks at U.N.

(Continued from page 1)

said he wanted to see Foreign Minister Velayati while they are both in Europe this weekend, but U.N. officials said that nothing has been arranged.

Mr. Velayati arrived in Geneva after visiting Bonn on Friday and Mr. Perez de Cuellar was due in Paris late Friday before continuing his journey to Addis Ababa.

Mr. Velayati is to address the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on Monday, and the Geneva 40-nation

conference on disarmament on Tuesday.

Iran has yet to formally tell Mr. Perez de Cuellar whether it will comply. Mr. Velayati issued the strongest indication yet Thursday that Iran would not adhere.

"There is no reason whatsoever for Iran to accept the resolution," Mr. Velayati said in Bonn.

Diplomats said they expected Iran to ask the Security Council to amend its resolution to cite Baghdad as the "aggressor" in the war, and to keep on manoeuvring while its oil flew freely, unchallenged by Iraq.

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First Arabic compact discs feature the giants

By Lee Winfield

MOHAMMAD Abdel Wahab's phenomenal career began in the early 30s, and from that time he has reigned comfortably as the "king" of male vocalists. However, he is now quite elderly, and his former charisma has been on the wane since the early '70s. Thus we find that his most productive years were during the '30s, '40s, '50s and to a lesser degree, the '60s.

From early days Abdel Wahab began experimenting with an Arabic-Western musical hybrid, set to a slow tango rhythm.

Songs in Arabic are written either in the vernacular, or in classical forms of Arabic. The great majority of songwriters use the colloquial form of spoken Arabic, and singers prefer it this way. Singers of note, however, such as Abdel Wahab and Om Kalsoum, utilised both forms of Arabic in their songs. Abdel Wahab being particularly versatile in that respect. Early in his career, he was patronised by the "prince of poets", Ahmed Shawqi, an influential poet with close connections to the court in mo-

narchial Egypt (Egypt became a republic in 1952). The friendship between the two produced such hits as *Ya Janat Al-Wadi* (Oh Neighbour of the Valley), referring to the Lebanese summer resort, Zahleh, which the poet used to visit in summer, along with multitudes of other Egyptian holiday-makers.

Abdel Wahab appeared in several films, always playing the title role to such ladies of the screen as Ragya Ibrahim and Laila Murad. Films such as *Yomn Sa'ed* (Happy Day) and *Rasasa fil Qalb* (A Bullet in the Heart) are now especially remembered for their soundtracks, rather than for their dramatic quality.

Throughout his career, Abdel Wahab had a formidable rival — Om Kalsoum, the peasant girl who became a legend in her own time. Being a proud man by nature, Abdel Wahab was never favoured by King Farouk. He had expected to be "knighted" on the strength of his artistic achievements, but King Farouk resolutely denied him that favour. To tease him, King Farouk showered favours on Om Kalsoum instead. Any lesser singer would have

been eclipsed, but not Abdel Wahab. His musical talent, his intelligence and his melodious voice all combined to sustain him at the pinnacle.

Mayada Al Hennawi

A green-eyed, natural blonde from Aleppo, Syria, Mayada Al Hennawi has all the pre-requisites for a prima donna singer. She has been attempting to occupy the throne of foremost female Arabic vocalist, left vacant following the death of the all-time great, Om Kalsoum, some few years ago. That she has made little headway to date is no fault of hers. She has meticulously followed the time-honoured formula for being launched into the firmaments of art — moving to Egypt in order to be launched from that country, the "Cape Canaveral of Arab artists", so to speak.

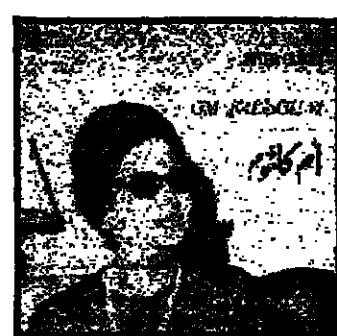
For some unknown reason, the formula did not work for her, and the "artistic rocket" with Syrian markings simply failed to ignite the king of publicity splash which Mayada and her fans must have hoped for. Somehow Cairo re-

mained insensitive to her talents. To complicate matters further, she was apparently unable to find a patron in Cairo to assist her in building up in image. After a brief success with the "king" of male Arab singers, Abdel Wahab, Mayada found herself without influential friends to assist in furthering her career. Even Abdel Wahab's support was suddenly withdrawn, and — according to some rumours — he actually went out of his way to persuade influential people not to facilitate her entry into Egypt. Lacking the support of Abdel Wahab or any other influential figure, Mayada was left no alternative but to depart from Egypt, no doubt, disenchanted.

Mayada's voice is strikingly similar to that of Om Kalsoum, who reigned, unrivaled, for most of the four decades during which she was the No. 1 female vocalist in the Arab World. This resemblance could have been better utilised, but poor Mayada — either through not playing her cards well, or through meeting with stiff opposition from potential rivals and their influential patrons — has not yet achieved that unmitigated success to which her mellifluous voice so entitles her.

Abdel Halim Hafez

In the mid-'50s a young and promising singer, Abdel Halim Hafez, made his mark on the artistic scene. At that time, the throne of Arab singing was exclusively occupied by a triumvirate: Abdel Wahab, Om Kalsoum and Farid Al Atrash. That he was able to establish himself at all, was, in the circumstances, no mean achievement. Lady Luck smiled upon Abdel Halim when



Om Kalsoum



Mohammad Abdel Wahab

one of the "troika" decided to adopt him as his protégé. Abdel Wahab was a formidable patron with many connections, some of whom were persuaded to help the young Abdel Halim. Abdel Wahab was important to Abdel Halim in many other ways too. A talented composer, Abdel Wahab generously sponsored the young singer, selecting for him poetic lyrics, and setting them to music which he himself wrote. Releasing songs which utilised the melodies of Abdel Wahab, ensured that Abdel Halim was half way along the road to success. Thus the name Abdel Halim became famous almost overnight.

The movie industry soon became interested, and Abdel Halim was cast in title roles on the strength of his popularity as a singer. Powerful politicians were among his fans, and with full backing from them, he was soon even more famous. The dedication of a song for the construction of the High Aswan Dam could only have endeared him to those in power. Not frail in stature, he nonetheless suffered all his life from a liver complaint which eventually provoked his untimely death while only in his late for-

ties.

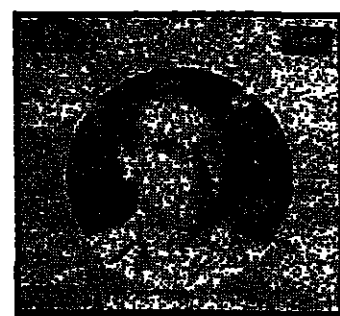
The Very Best of Fairuz

"The voice of Fairuz has character." This judgment by a discerning artistic critic was placed upon the talents of the famous Lebanese singer. She certainly has a vocal style all her own. Uninfluenced by anyone (nor does anyone attempt to replicate her own inimitable performance). Fairuz had a particular appeal to the educated and "new" generation of the '50s and '60s. These days her fans were not restricted to any particular category.

Fairuz must have benefitted greatly from the musical talents of her husband and her brother-in-law. They tailored their music to her particular vocal requirements, and the result was an unqualified success. She had a "falling-out" with her husband a few years ago, and began to rely on her equally talented son, Ziad. Some fans were apprehensive lest this adversely affect her performance, but Fairuz survived the crisis, and has emerged unscathed, as popular in her native Lebanon as in any other Arab country.



Fairuz



Abdel Halim Hafez



Mayada Al Hennawi

Film star starts hospital near Kampuchea's 'killing fields'

By Mark Fisher
Reuters

BANGKOK — Teenage Khmer Rouge soldiers, flush with victory in Kampuchea's civil war, burst into a Phnom Penh hospital in April 1975 and marched out at gun-point a mild-mannered, bespectacled doctor.

The Khmer Rouge killed his parents, other relatives and his girlfriend. They sent him to work as a labourer in the countryside.

The doctor, Haing Ngor, escaped to Thailand in 1979, went to live in the United States and became a star playing a journalist in the award-winning film, "The

Killing Fields.

The story mirrored his own experience of Khmer Rouge fanaticism and brutality.

Now, Ngor plans to set up a hospital in Thailand for some of the more than 250,000 Kampuchean who live there in squalid refugee camps, a legacy of four years of Khmer Rouge rule and the Vietnamese invasion that brought it to an end.

"I made the film so that the world would know the truth, to help Kampuchea," he told Reuters. "Now I want to help my people in another way."

The hospital will train refugees to work as paramedics in camps

by the border, where many Kampuchean have lived for years.

Most have little prospect of leaving, as Western countries take fewer and fewer refugees for resettlement.

International agencies already provide medical services, but Ngor said more were needed. He is seeking donations from around the world for the hospital and has already raised funds in Belgium.

Forty doctors have volunteered to work in the hospital, he added.

He will spend little time working there himself as he is planning to make another film in Thailand about the Khmer Rouge — "much bloodier than 'The Killing

Fields'." He has also written an autobiography, to be published soon.

Despite his harrowing past, Ngor, 37, stresses that he does not feel bitter towards the Khmer Rouge, now one of three allied Kampuchean guerrilla groups fighting the Vietnamese.

"There's just no point. It's the future that's important," he said. Ngor said he was largely apolitical and wanted to have no formal contact with any of the groups who together form the United Nations-recognised coalition government of democratic Kampuchea.

He said that to emphasise his independence he would not build the hospital in one of the camps, where the guerrillas wield influence, but somewhere nearby along the border.

It might be built near the farm where Ngor worked under the Khmer Rouge until he found a chance to flee in the confusion following Vietnam's invasion and its installation of the Heng Samrin government in Phnom Penh.

"When the Vietnamese arrived, Kampuchean were grateful. They saved us from the Khmer Rouge," Ngor said. "But they have stayed too long. They should leave."

Ngor recalls that he and many other Kampuchean had little fear of the Khmer Rouge before they captured Phnom Penh. The U.S.-backed government of Lon Nol was corrupt, he said, and the prospect of a Khmer Rouge victory offered a welcome end to years of fighting, which had included massive bombing of the countryside by the U.S. air force.

"Nobody thought the Khmer Rouge would do what they did. Who could have imagined it?" Ngor said.

He said some four million people died under Khmer Rouge rule, most of them murdered, the rest from starvation.

JTV Channel 2 Preview

Sat. — July 25, 1987

8:30 Together We Stand
It Happened One Night

9:00 Variety Show

10:20 Feature Film
The Cradle Will Fall

Starring:
Ben Murphy

Sun. — July 26, 1987

8:30 Growing Pains

9:10 Doc. — Mysteries of Peru

The second film focuses on the highly sophisticated and technologically advanced Peruvian civilisation which managed to irrigate an arid desert and farm 40 per cent more of the land than is achieved today.

10:20 Hunter
Death Machine

11:10 The Ropers
Mother's Wake

Mon. — July 27, 1987

8:30 Throb

9:10 Mussolini
The Untold Story

The private and public life of Italy's fascist leader Mussolini, who headed Italy's government in 1922, and his role in the year to come which led to Italy's involvement in World War II.

10:20 Goya

The splendid portrait of the Royal Family is the centerpiece of this episode, which marks a turning point in Goya's life.

As First Court Painter, Goya is a privileged witness to the internal tensions of the Court, where Godoy's power is challenged by Prince Fernando. As Goya paints the family portrait, the conflict is revealed. The secret battle between Godoy and the Prince finally culminates in the Escorial conspiracy, which ends in Fernando's imprisonment.

11:10 The Love Boat

Tue. — July 28, 1987

8:30 Double Trouble
A Dancing Duet

Determined to prove she's not the shy sister as Kate claims.

Allison enters a dance competition, but when an ankle sprain forces Kate's withdrawal from the televised final round, Allison's true colours emerge.

Kate Foster Jean Sagal
Allison Foster Liz Sagal

9:10 Ohara

10:20 The Unknown War
The Allies

11:10 Open All Hours

Wed. — July 29, 1987

8:30 Three's A Crowd
A Star Is Born

When Vicky gets a part in a TV commercial for her airline, Jack accompanies her to the studio. Due to his constant interruptions, including breaking the camera, Vicky is fired. To make it up to her, Jack later returns to apologise to the irate director and ask for Vicky's job back. After pleading with the director, Jack learns that the commercial's backer has already ordered him to re-hire Vicky.

9:10 Doc. — The Silk Road
In Search of the Kingdom of

Laulan
For Chinese scholars, this will be the first expedition to Laulan since the liberation.

What has since become of Lop-nur, the wandering lake? What about the ancient city of Laulan, which is so deeply wrapped in mystery? Will the 'Princess of Laulan', buried again by Swedish explorer Sven Hedin, make her reappearance under the sky of liberated China?

Our expectation is that the search for answers to these questions promises to be a difficult one, which the whole world will watch with great interest.

10:20 The Wheels

Thur. — July 30, 1987

8:30 My Husband And I
A Matter of Discipline
9:10 Rags to Riches

10:20 Feature Film
The Day of the Cobra

Starring:
Franco Nero

Fri. — July 31, 1987

8:30 Bill Cosby Show

9:10 Falcon Crest

10:20 If Tomorrow Comes

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CHEESE FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY

MADE IN
GERMANY

Khayyat races Nissan RS to victory in national rally

By Peter Baratta
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Fifteen seconds and no brakes. That is how George Khayyat won Friday's Danish Jordanian Dairy Company Rally.

Running with a faulty brake system during the last stages of the race, Khayyat and his co-driver Fawzi Sawalha managed to drive their Nissan 240 RS to victory with a time of one hour, ten minutes and eleven seconds, 15 seconds faster than the second place team of Hani Bisharat and Wafai Mseis.

Khayyat was driving full speed in fifth gear through one of the last stages when his car hit a ditch. Afterwards, when he tried to steer, Khayyat said, he realised the car had no brakes.

"I had to drive slower (during the last two stages). I had to stop the car with the gears."

Despite his reduced speed, Khayyat managed to capture the winner's trophy of the rally, which saw only 13 of the original 29 entries finish the race.

One of the entries which did

not finish was Royal Jordanian Silk Cut team of His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah and His Royal Highness Prince Talal. During the first stage at the Royal Automobile Club Driver Training Centre, their car's tyres failed to grip the road during a sharp turn, causing the vehicle to skid into an embankment damaging the crankshaft.

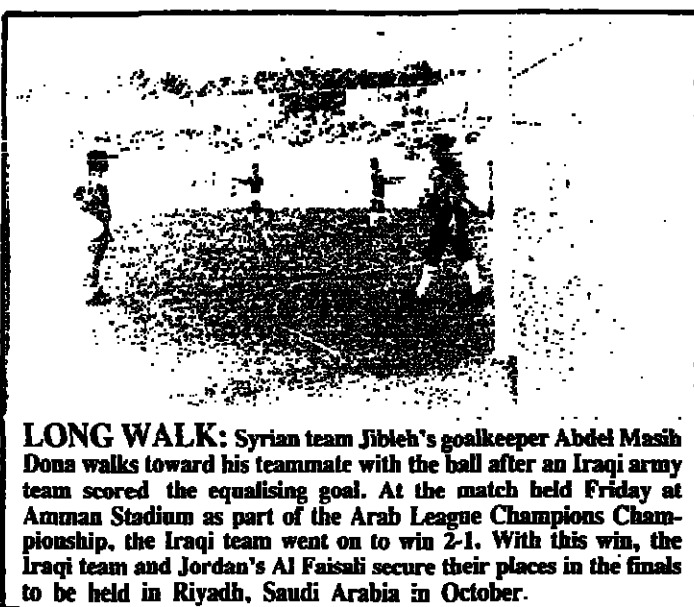
Later, while they were on the highway, Prince Abdullah said he heard a "big bang" and immediately noticed the gearshift shaking. The crankshaft eventually gave out and soon after, the number three car was out of the race.

"They found the crankshaft about 200 yards behind me," the Prince said smilingly after the race. "Sometimes you win, sometimes you lose."

Following is the list of finishers

of the rally: (Name of co-driver, type of car and timing are given in brackets):

1. George Khayyat (Fawzi Sawalha / Nissan 240 RS / 1:10:11);
2. Hani Bisharat (Wafai Mseis / Toyota Celica GT / 1:10:26);
3. Khaled Dallal (Ali Al Hamen / Nissan 240 RS / 1:12:06);
4. Nabil Karam (Samir Rifai / Opel Manta 400 / 1:12:08);
5. Marouf Abu Samra (Bilal Shkaidaf / Nissan 240 RS / 1:16:43);
6. Issa Halabi (Ziad Hamzeh / Toyota Corolla GT / 1:16:54);
7. Naser Bustami (Bashar Bustami / Nissan 240 RS / 1:20:43);
8. Maurice Khoury (Hosam Abdeen / Daihatsu Charade / 1:34:38);
9. Ahmad Daoud (Firas Nemri / Lada VFTS / 1:37:15);
10. Zafar Abdeen (Mazen Dajani / Daihatsu Charmant / 1:38:54);
11. Mithqal Asfour (Nicola Billeh / Volvo 244 Turbo / 1:40:35);
12. Rimon Fleifel (Riad Sammanoudi / Toyota Celica / 1:49:34);
13. Mohammad Sha'ban (Sarena Sha'ban / Talbot Sunbeam TT / 2:5:19).



LONG WALK: Syrian team Jibeh's goalkeeper Abdel Mash walks toward his teammate with the ball after an Iraqi army team scored the equalising goal. At the match held Friday at Amman Stadium as part of the Arab League Champions Championship, the Iraqi team went on to win 2-1. With this win, the Iraqi team and Jordan's Al Faisali secure their places in the finals to be held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia in October.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Minister reviews ties with Iraq, S. Korea

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Youth Eid Dahiyat has discussed with Iraqi Ambassador in Amman Ghafel Jassim Hussein the implementation of a youth and sports protocol which was recently signed by the two countries. The two sides agreed that a delegation representing youth centres in Jordan pay a visit to Iraq in August to exchange information and experience with their Iraqi counterparts in youth centres-related topics. Also on Thursday Dr. Dahiyat discussed with the South Korean Ambassador in Amman Dongsoon Park youth and sports cooperation between Jordan and South Korea as well as preparations for the 1988 Olympic games in Seoul.

Clubs penalised for alleged match rigging

MILAN, Italy (R) — Soccer disciplinary tribunal has ruled that First Division Empoli and Second Division Triestina should start next season with five-point penalties for alleged attempts at match-rigging two years ago. The Italian Soccer Federation said the tribunal had also decided Wednesday night to suspend Triestina Club President Raffaele de Riu and Giovanni Pinzani, Empoli president during the 1985-86 season, for three years. It said the case would go to the federation's commission of appeal on July 31.

McCallum offered \$1m for rematch

DALLAS (AP) — Boxer Donald Curry, the former undisputed welterweight champion who was knocked out by Mike McCallum, has said he's taking two months off and has offered McCallum \$1 million for a rematch. "I'm not going to quit. I'm not a quitter. I'm a winner and I've been a winner all my life," Curry told a news conference. Curry said he hopes to have another fight in October and would like to meet McCallum in February. Curry suffered a one-punch knockout loss Saturday in Las Vegas, Nevada, to McCallum, the World Boxing Association (WBA) junior middleweight champion.

Navratilova to miss tennis event

NEW YORK (AP) — Wimbledon champion Martina Navratilova has withdrawn from next week's Federation Cup Tennis Championship in Vancouver because of a sprained left ankle. Navratilova originally injured the ankle playing in the Virginia slims event, at New Orleans against American compatriot Zina Garrison. She re-injured it in a match in Germany against Steffi Graf. The Federation Cup is the women's version of the men's Davis Cup competition.

Cash continues Wimbledon streak as Davis Cup quarterfinals get underway

BRISBANE (Agencies) — Australia's Pat Cash continued the blistering form which won him the Wimbledon crown on Friday when he crushed Leonardo Lavalle of Mexico 6-2, 6-1, 6-0 in the Davis Cup World Group quarter-final.

Cash and teammate Wally Masur each scored impressive victories to give defending champion Australia a 2-0 lead over Mexico. Australian number two Masur vindicated his selection ahead of Peter Doohan with a 6-3, 6-4, 6-4 triumph over Jorge Lozano in the opening singles.

Cash, cheered on by the crowd, then whipped Leonardo Lavalle 6-2, 6-1, 6-0 in just over 90 minutes. Australia, which won the cup by defeating Sweden in the final

at Kooyong in Melbourne last December, can clinch a spot in the semi-finals for the 13th successive year by winning Saturday's doubles.

Masur and Doohan are scheduled to face Lavalle and Lozano in the doubles with the two reverse singles slated for Sunday. Cash, playing for the first time since his Wimbledon triumph over world number one Ivan Lendl, completely overpowered left-hander Lavalle.

The 20-year-old Mexican, a former Wimbledon junior champion, had no answer to Cash's variety and power. Cash, 22, looked relaxed and confident in lifting his Davis Cup singles record to 18-5. He also reversed a loss to Lavalle in last year's U.S. Open.

New Zealand vs. Thailand

In Bangkok, New Zealand led

'Grandma Whitney' conquers Mount Fuji at 91

TOKYO (Agencies) — 91-year-old American grandma scaled Mount Fuji Friday, becoming the oldest woman to climb Japan's highest peak, greeted the dawn with a shout of "banzai."

Hilda Crooks of Loma Linda, California, an experienced mountaineer, reached the sacred 3,776-metre (12,385-foot) peak at 3.45 a.m. (18:45 GMT) Thursday with the help of a walking-stick after a two-day climb.

"Age is up to mind. Younger people should have a challenging spirit," Crooks told Loma Linda's elder Elmer Digneo by telephone afterwards.

As the sun rose, she shouted "banzai" a Japanese salute to the emperor and war-cry — in unison with 500 employees and their families from a company that invited her to make the ascent, a company spokesman told Reuters.

"It's wonderful," she said, bundled in a down jacket in the near-freezing weather. "You always feel good when you made a goal."

Surrounded by well-wishers from Dentsu Inc., the Japanese company that arranged the climb, she said: "I couldn't have made it in the dark without... all the help I had."

In the last leg of her climb, Mrs. Crooks left a rest hut at 1 a.m. (16:00 GMT) and inched her way up the final 320 metres (350



Hilda Crooks... 'better old than never'

yards), resting in a camp chair every few minutes. Hundreds of Dentsu employees followed her with flashlights.

Kaz Honga, a doctor accompanying her, said afterwards that Mrs. Crooks had an occasional irregular heart rhythm during the climb but did "just great overall."

She said the climb was her toughest ever, in terrain whose crumbling volcanic rocks made treacherous footing.

The previous holder of the women's age record was Mine Yajima of Kanagawa State, west of Tokyo, who climbed Fuji in 1985 at age 90, said officials of the sponsoring company.

Teichi Igarashi of Fukushima State in northern Japan holds the men's age record, climbing the

mountain 63 miles (101 kms) southwest of Tokyo last summer at 99. He plans to climb Fuji again next month, at age 100.

Many elderly Japanese attempt to climb the mountain. Seventeen who were at least 90 years old made it to the top last year, according to official figures.

Mrs. Crooks grew up on a farm in Canada and began climbing mountains in her 40s after a bout of pneumonia. Her late husband, a doctor, advised her to climb to regain her health.

Since she was 66 years old, she has scaled 97 peaks, including 86 of the Sierra Nevada Mountains over 4,950 feet (1,500 metres) high.

Mrs. Crooks, a vegetarian, ascribes her strength to diet and no smoking or drinking.

After arriving in Japan early this week, Mrs. Crooks said she wanted to show old people they still could do things and be role models for the young.

As to why she climbs mountains, she said: "I like it. I like nature. You climb high mountains and you look down at those steep valleys and it inspires you to do something."

Mrs. Crooks has scaled the 4,418-metre (14,491-foot) Mt. Whitney in California, the highest peak in the United States outside Alaska, 22 times since she was 66, earning the nickname "Grandma Whitney."

Reference Point favourite to regain winning ways

ASCOT, England (R) — Epsom Derby winner Reference Point seeks to regain his winning ways Saturday, but faces a searching examination in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes — the midsummer highlight of the British horse racing calendar.

Reference Point and Steve Causton found the improving four-year-old Mtoto too much of a handful in the Eclipse Stakes over ten furlongs earlier this month, going under by three-quarters of a length.

But over Saturday's trip of 12 furlongs, the younger horse had been confidently expected to reverse the placings, even before the defection on Thursday of Mtoto because of the heavy

ground. In the absence of Mtoto, support has been growing for another four-year-old Celestial Storm who now stands at 9-2, the second choice after Reference Point at 5-4.

Despite being only three-quarters fit after injuring a joint, Celestial Storm broke the course record when winning the Princess of Wales Stakes at Newmarket.

Over Saturday's distance he may have the beating of Triptych, third in the Eclipse and winner of last year's Champion Stakes over 10 furlongs when Celestial Storm finished second.

However, the softer ground holds no fears for the gallant French trained mare and she too has been backed with some

vigour down to 9-2. English and Irish Oaks winner Unite (8-1), owned by Sheikh Mohammed of Dubai, has done everything, and more, expected of her but meets older horses for the first time.

The same applies to Irish Derby winner Sir Harry Lewis (11-1), although the prevailing ground is very much in his favour as he showed when ploughing to classic success at the Curragh last month.

St. Leger winner Moon Madness (12-1) flogged in the mud at Royal Ascot but returned to his best on a firm surface with an easy success in the group one Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud when Italian trained Tony Bin (50-1 for Saturday's race) finished second.

World artistic cyclists go into action today

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Thrilling acrobatic moves, artistic cycling and cycle-ball events will be the highlights today at the Roman amphitheatre

as West German cycling acers stage a world champions festival. A group of world and European champions are set to render a dazzling show of skills and grace in the festival, proceeds of which will go to stage a world artistic cycling and cycle-ball Academy of Sports (MESA).

The individual world champion in artistic cycling, Dieter Maute, and a number of former and current world champions are taking part in the festival, proceeds of which will go to stage a world artistic cycling and cycle-ball championships, slated for 1989.

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LEGAL EAGLES

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Tel: 675573

OUT OF BOUNDS

Performances: 7:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:30

Cinema

PLAZA

Tel: 675571

TOM BOY

Performances: 7:30, 9:00, 9:30, 10:30

Cinema

RAGHADAN

Tel: 622198

DRAGON LORD

Performances: 12:15, 2:15, 5:45, 8:15

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following were the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Friday.

One Sterling	1.6030/40	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3328/33	Canadian dollar
	1.8549/55	West German marks
	2.0890/0900	Dutch guilders
	1.5360/70	Swiss francs
	38.44/47	Belgian francs
	6.1700/50	French francs
	1342/1343	Italian lira
	150.05/15	Japanese yen
	6.4550/4600	Swedish crowns
	6.7675/7725	Norwegian crowns
	7.0350/0400	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	454.00/454.50	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equity prices pushed through the day's highs achieved mid-session, helped by a greater degree of buying for the new account which begins Monday but overall trading activity was relatively quiet. At 1437 GMT Friday the FTSE 100 share index was 2,352.8.

The Tokyo market's record one day gain lifted early sentiment but mid-week news of a larger than expected U.K. May current account deficit of £561 million continues to dampen investor enthusiasm, dealers said.

Lloyds Bank denied sentiment with a larger than expected £1.07 billion debt provision on its interim results.

Dealers said although the market has the outward signs of renewed strength it is beginning to move on a "hand to mouth" basis. A greater than anticipated rise of 2.6 per cent in U.S. second quarter growth also helped buying interest.

The FTSE 100 share index has seen a fall of over 80 points in the week, most of which occurred in reaction to the latest U.K. trade data which followed in the wake of bearish U.K. bank lending figures and signs of a consumer boom.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, JULY 25, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Take no unnecessary risks and avoid starting a new course of action. Your judgment is not apt to be up to par, and adverse results would be likely. Finish old work.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Make sure you finish any shopping early today. Don't try to clear up the situation with your mate right now.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be firm in solving that annoying problem at home. This is definitely a bad day to have guests into your home.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Drive very carefully and avoid heavy traffic. An accident could be very expensive, to say the least.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Make overdue collections and then pay your own bills. Watch out for faulty financial advice.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 23) Do more listening and less talking when with friends today. Keep important new ideas to yourself, or risk losing them.

VIRGO (Aug. 24 to Sept. 23) Tried and true methods will work well in handling private affairs, but don't be sarcastic. Demonstrate your loyalty.

LIBRA (Sept. 24 to Oct. 23) Avoid a "friend" who has been consistently unreliable, or you can expect further disappointments from this person.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 to Nov. 21) Avoid upsetting a person in a place of power or position, or you'll regret it later. Take no risks with credit matters.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may be eager for some frivolous activities, but it would be best to attend to your duties at hand.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Give your full attention to getting some obligations out of the way. Don't start any arguments over trivial matters.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Be sure to keep a promise to an outside contact or this person will oppose you later. Get some recreation this evening.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get small tasks out of the way now and prepare for bigger and more important activities just down the road.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be talented in areas such as saving failing businesses. Teach him or her to understand the motives of others, and not to judge simply by outward appearances. Adding psychology to the academic curriculum would be very helpful. Also, make sure ethics are understood.

THE Daily Crossword by C.F. Murray

ACROSS

- 1 Claret
- 2 Key letter
- 3 Nora Helmer's creator
- 4 Logan or Malone
- 5 Moran of TV
- 6 Apartment
- 7 Aid
- 8 "Three blind mice"
- 9 Earthenware pots
- 10 Certain
- 11 Incumbents
- 12 Rejuvenation
- 13 Sports sites
- 14 Crew
- 15 Snorkeling
- 16 Spot
- 17 Territory
- 18 Hiding place
- 19 Zoo
- 20 Mountain
- 21 Architectural ridge
- 22 Sink flax
- 23 Film item
- 24 Draw
- 25 Extravagant
- 26 Rusty items
- 27 Allergic condition
- 28 Dragster
- 29 Alt
- 30 Skirts
- 31 Beauty spot
- 32 Suit of blame
- 33 Underwood
- 34 B.C. composer
- 35 Sock — me!
- 36 Get up
- 37 Captive bee
- 38 Onion cousin
- 39 Shapened
- 40 Glee
- 41 See eagle

DOWN

- 1 Edison's contemporary
- 2 Wedding site
- 3 Vicious maid
- 4 A Valentine
- 5 Paraphrase
- 6 Skater Holden
- 7 Clock sound
- 8 "of noble"
- 9 Live on a weather map
- 10 A Roosevelt is
- 11 Farm structure
- 12 Coup d' —
- 13 Look
- 14 Ventures
- 15 K's counterpart
- 16 Noblesman
- 17 Armada
- 18 Major
- 19 Regime
- 20 Police
- 21 Follow-up
- 22 Sp. house
- 23 B.A. word
- 24 Ruler, suit
- 25 Snail's mount
- 26 Remains
- 27 Over
- 28 Cham
- 29 Used darning
- 30 Needle
- 31 Horatio
- 32 Sacred song
- 33 Spy
- 34 Loving one
- 35 Swallowtail
- 36 Food furnace
- 37 Parole ruler
- 38 Flying prefix
- 39 Nestled
- 40 Maricopa
- 41 India
- 42 Square pillar

Pessimism grows as World Bank leadership stumbles

NEW YORK — When Mr. Barber Conable, the 64-year-old former U.S. Republican congressman, was appointed president of the World Bank a year ago, hopes were high that he would provide the pre-eminent development institution with the dynamic leadership its 6,000 employees have yearned for.

Today, those hopes are fading. Top officials of the bank are reluctantly coming to the conclusion that, whatever his strengths, Mr. Conable's lack of familiarity with international economic issues and the world outside Washington, and his lack of experience running a large institution are proving bigger handicaps than anticipated when he took the job.

Some of the criticism being directed at Mr. Conable has been stirred up by his decision recently to undertake a far-reaching reorganization of the bank's operations. It is the sort of bold initiative for which many people, inside and outside the bank, have been calling.

Its objective is to cut through the bureaucratic inertia which has gripped the bank in recent years, improve its capacity to enter into an imaginative dialogue with developing countries about strengthening their economic performance, and revive the role of the World Bank as a source of knowledge and expertise on development issues.

If it were to achieve these aims, Mr. Conable's tenure as World Bank president could be judged a success, especially if it helped to secure from Congress the capital increase the bank needs.

Initial reaction to the changes has been sceptical, however, largely because Mr. Conable's handling of the reorganization seems to have created new problems without necessarily resolving the old ones.

The most dramatic examples of this has been his failure to hand on to Mr. Eugene Rotberg, the treasurer of the bank and a man seen in the world's financial markets as having played a large part in building the confidence which has allowed the institution to borrow on the finest terms.

The loss of Mr. Rotberg, who quit a few weeks ago after turning down a new job, reportedly because he was not offered the promotion to senior vice-president which many believe his ability and seniority merited, is a serious blow. It could be compounded if, as some in the bank fear, other members of the treasury operation also depart.

Mr. Rotberg's resignation and Mr. Conable's decision to let some other highly-regarded officials go as part of his efforts to slim the bank down have cast a pall over the implementation of the reorganization plan. The perception that he is caving in to pressures from, among others, the West German government, to protect the jobs of some of their nationals, has also damaged Mr. Conable's reputation.

The pessimism has been deepened by the time it has taken

to decide what to do. As a result, normal operations at the bank, if they have not ground to a halt, have slowed to a crawl as staff have been reluctant to go overseas or take initiatives because they have not known what (if any) new job they would be in line for.

In another way, too, the implementation of the plan has drawn criticism. It has consisted largely of reshuffling the existing ranks of senior executives at a time when many in the bank felt that new blood was needed. This is not entirely Mr. Conable's fault. At least one top outsider who was approached for a senior job, Mr. Toyoo Gyohten, the vice-minister of finance for Japan, reportedly turned him down.

As for the reorganization plan itself, the jury is out. Power at the top of the bank has been split between four instead of two senior vice-presidents. The operational side, which was headed by Mr. Ernest Stern, a man generally perceived to have concentrated too much decision-making in his own hands, has been shaken up. This was partly to remove Mr. Stern to the job of senior vice-president for finance, but also to reflect the growing importance of loans linked to economic policy conditions.

At the same time, a new policy, planning and research division has been set up under a senior vice-president to act as a think-tank for the institution and for its president. This is a gamble. It creates formidable liaison problems with the operational side of the bank in the hope of strengthening its capacity to provide intellectual leadership on development issues.

The shuffling of the bank's structure does not, however, resolve some of the management rivalries which have created problems among its able top executives in the past.

Neither has it advanced the bank's efforts to develop a strategy for helping developing countries tackle the task of improving the efficiency of their economies while sustaining economic growth.

That task is looking more and more urgent. With the decision of Citibank to put aside substantial reserves against its loans to developing countries, the last nail seems to have been driven into the coffin of the plan proposed by

Lawmakers see emergency bill to prevent U.S. fiscal crisis

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers predicted Thursday that emergency action would be needed to prevent a government financial catastrophe this week after the Senate rejected a proposal for reviving the Gramm-Rudman budget balancing law.

The vote magnified the budget stalemate blocking urgently needed action on the national debt ceiling. The Treasury needs more borrowing authority by the middle of this week or the government might default on its



Barber Conable

U.S. treasury secretary, Mr. James Baker, to boost growth in 15 major developing countries with the help of increased commercial bank lending matched by a bigger role for the World Bank.

If so, what now should be the bank's role and what is the status of the capital increase the U.S. said it would support for the bank as its lending increased? The question has become more pressing as the fall in the value of the dollar has constrained the bank's capacity to lend.

Mr. Conable's comments on these issues have disappointed those of his critics who, with justification, have argued that he has allowed himself to become too much the mouthpiece of a U.S. government divided about the importance of the institution he heads.

He is, his critics say, devoting too little time to trying to be the president of the bank and allowing himself to be cast too much in the role of a representative of its major shareholder — the U.S.

Recently, Mr. Conable was quoted as suggesting that the bank will not need a decision on a capital increase until 1988, a position with which even some U.S. treasury officials do not seem to agree.

Mr. Conable took up his position at a difficult time for the institution. Internal reforms have presented an enormous challenge, while the performance of the industrial and developing country economies has exacerbated the Third World debt problem. As Mr. Conable puts the reorganization plan into effect, the next few months will be critical in determining whether he can respond effectively to these challenges — Financial Times news feature.

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obligations for the first time in history.

Two amendments — one by Democrats, the other by Republicans — were designed to create a constitutional mechanism to restore the Gramm-Rudman law's original programme of automatic spending cuts that enforce annual deficit targets. Those cuts were ended by a supreme court ruling last year.

Both amendments also would ease the original targets.

Algeria urges Africans to bolster cooperation

ALGIERS (R) — Algerian Prime Minister Abdul Hamid Brahimi Thursday urged Africa's oil-producing states to do their best to help the rest of the continent cut national fuel bills.

"Our belief in African solidarity and unity explains why each of us, through bilateral procedures, must do his utmost to assist sister African hydro-carbon importing countries in meeting their requirements in the best possible way," he said.

Mr. Brahimi was addressing the opening session of the African Petroleum Producers Association (APPA), which is holding its first ministerial meeting here since its launch in January.

He said the group — which comprises Algeria, Angola, Benin, Congo, Cameroun, Gabon, Libya and Nigeria — should cooperate to get the best out of their resources, expertise and manpower.

He also urged members to study the supply of oil in Africa to define the "means to alleviate the petroleum bill of countries, which the international economic and financial crisis, worsened by the dramatic fall in the price of basic commodities, is not helping."

Mr. Brahimi gave no more details. Most African states pay the full cost of oil imported from other African countries and often complain that the oil bill eats up to half of their revenue from commodities.

In recent years there has been some trade in concessional oil on

especially its food production and energy, to reverse dependence on Western imports and save foreign exchange.

In this context, the Algerian premier said African states should try to get the best deal from Western oil companies operating on the continent as part of the so-called North-South dialogue between poor and rich countries.

"This is particularly true for oil companies operating in our countries, since the objective of such cooperation is to give an impulse to exploration and development efforts in a continent still largely unexplored given the fact that these companies have the technical and financial means for such an effort," he said.

He said African oil states should "develop relationships based on the safeguards of the fundamental interests of our countries, while at the same time recognising the legitimate interests of these companies."

But they should also take into account the oil firms' interests "through an equitable payback for the investment they make," he said.

Since the 1985-86 oil price crash, when crude plunged from \$30 to \$9 a barrel, prices have risen to around \$20 making exploration for new oil developments more attractive.

The quest for oil is being carried out in many parts of eastern, central and southern Africa although no major finds have yet been reported.

The next move in home shopping

LONDON — In the past month or so, while Britain's High Street stores have been embroiled in summer sales, the mail order industry has pushed its new winter catalogues through letter boxes across the country.

On the surface, the industry's prospects are rosy for many years. Most of the big mail order companies — or home shopping as they prefer to be called — have been hauled out of the doldrums of the early 1980s.

Moreover, after years of decline, mail order sales outpaced retail sales in the first half of this year.

Yet the underlying picture is anything but rosy, not least because, after years of consolidation, new forces are emerging in the industry.

Freemans, one of the more dynamic of the mail order houses, already bears the benefits of its acquisition of the Warehouse fashion group last summer. Marks & Spencer, the retailing group, is still mulling over whether to develop its mail order experiment with N. Brown, another established house.

However, the greatest threat to the status quo is Next, the retailing group which revolutionised High Street shopping in the early 1980s and plans to do the same for home shopping through its merger with the Grattan mail order business.

Next proposes, in the words of

Mr. David Jones, its deputy chief executive, to "break the mould" of the mail order industry. The planning for Nextmail — as it is codenamed — is complete and the group is in the final throes of preparation. Just recently, it acquired Dillons, a chain of newsagents, to provide collection points for its mail order customers.

The first Next catalogue is scheduled for publication early next year. In the meantime, the home shopping industry is in a hiatus.

The heyday of mail order was in the 1960s: The days when Mr. Harold Wilson treated trade union leaders to beer and sandwiches in Downing Street and unemployment was a faint memory from the 1930s.

Conspicuous consumption entered the lives of the British working class for the first time and buying on the "never, never" from the glossy pages of a catalogue matched the mood of the moment to perfection.

The industry gathered momentum through the next decade. But just as it had thrived with its working class customers in the 1960s and 1970s, so mail order faded when they bore the brunt of economic recession in the early 1980s.

Many of the small companies collapsed. The larger houses survived, chiefly by effecting structural improvements such as tightening stock control and weeding out bad agents. But these companies

emerged from the hard times into a very different trading environment. The "retailing revolution" had brightened up the High Street and consumer credit — the catalogues' traditional advantage — was freely available.

Mail order's share of retailing expenditure slipped from 4.2 per cent to 3.6 per cent between 1979 and 1981, according to Verdict, a retail consultancy, and has fallen further to its nadir of 3.4 per cent in 1984 and 1986.

The industry has responded by living up its catalogues, chiefly in liaison with outsiders. Thus Grattan is involved with Next; Freemans with Warehouse; and Littlewoods has drafted in Travilla, a Hollywood designer who works with the stars of the soap opera Dallas and Dynasty.

More recently, Empire Stores has begun to work with the Burton Group, while its new managing director, Mr. Michael Harris who arrived in June from Great Universal Stores, has begun a thorough review of its business.

Mail order is also attempting to attract a new generation of home shoppers by producing tightly targeted catalogues — or "specialised" — for clearly-defined consumer groups. All the large houses have introduced specialities, most devised to add young, more affluent consumers to their traditional market.

— Financial Times feature.

Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff

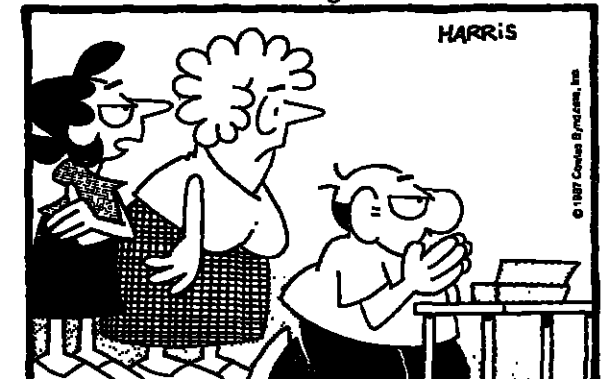


Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



"I told him men should try to be more sentimental. He's having a funeral for a dead battery."

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DYRIT
YONJE
CEXIES
PHATAY



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

Yesterday's Jumbles: WEDGE CHIME POTTER LOCATE
Answer: What her rebellious husband did when she asked him to perform a disagreeable chore — CHORTLED

Swiss police storm plane after hijacker kills Air Afrique passenger

GENEVA (Agencies) — A gunman hijacked an Air Afrique jetliner and killed one of its passengers Friday before Swiss police stormed the plane and captured him, Swiss and French authorities reported.

In Paris, the French government reported that Swiss police led an assault on the Air Afrique DC-10 after the gunman shot a passenger in the head.

Robert Ducret, head of the Swiss crisis unit at Geneva airport, told reporters the victim was "probably a French national."

"He was executed with a bullet fired through his head," Mr. Ducret said.

He said the hijacker, described as about 30 years old said the hijacking was "linked to the problem of his brother held in Germany."

The plane had been carrying 163 people when it was hijacked Friday on a flight from Rome to Paris. The hijacker had demanded to be flown to the Middle East after landing in Geneva for fuel, authorities said.

"The affair is over," said a French Foreign Ministry spokesman in Paris, who could not be identified by name in keeping with French practice.

Geneva police spokesman

Marcel Vandroz had said the gunman threatened to kill passengers if his demands were not met, but did not set a deadline. He said the hijacker had demanded to be flown to Beirut, Lebanon or Doha, Saudi Arabia.

Geneva police chief Bernard Ziegler told reporters at the airport the hijacker, speaking French, first demanded the plane be resupplied with food for a flight to the Middle East, then sent the supplies back when they arrived.

Mr. Ziegler had said the Swiss crisis unit was in touch with French and Lebanese authorities and with headquarters of Air Afrique in the Ivory Coast.

Asked about the passengers, he said he only knew the people aboard appeared to include "a number of French nationals."

Airport security had surrounded the plane on the tarmac at Geneva's Cointrin Airport and one official boarded the green-striped plane and spoke with the hijacker, airport official Cyrille Bonhote said.

Police cleared an area of about 100 metres around the plane. Blinds were drawn on the windows of the plane's right side, which was visible to reporters.

The hijacker, who reportedly was carrying a pistol, demanded that the plane be refuelled, said Mr. Bonhote. He did not have further details on the hijacker and did not know his nationality.

The flight had originated in Brazzaville, Congo, and stopped in Bangui, Central African Republic before proceeding to Rome. The plane was hijacked over Milan, en route to Paris, Mr. Bonhote said.

Airport spokeswoman Antonette Borbolla said there were 148 passengers on the aircraft, including two children, and 15 crew members.

The plane landed in Geneva at 8:08 a.m. (0608 GMT), she said.

An Air Afrique spokesman in Rome told Reuters that no passengers had boarded the aircraft while it was being refuelled at Fiumicino Airport there. He said some passengers had disembarked, but declined to say how many.

Air Afrique is a multi-national airline based in the Ivory Coast and owned jointly with the Central African Republic, Niger, Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad, Congo, Mauritania, Senegal and Togo.

Tamil leaders in India to finalise peace plan

MADRAS, India (AP) — The leader of the most powerful Sri Lankan Tamil rebel group arrived in southern India on Friday en route to New Delhi to finalise a long-awaited peace plan to end the island nation's 4-year-old ethnic war, Tamil sources said.

Velupillai Prabhakaran, leader of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, will fly to the Indian capital to meet Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, said sources among Tamil rebel groups.

The sources said peace agreements were likely to be signed next week in Colombo, the Sri Lankan capital.

One agreement will be between India and Sri Lanka and the other between Sri Lanka and the Tamils, said the sources, who spoke on condition of not being identified.

India reportedly will act as a guarantor of the Sri Lanka-Tamil pact.

The Tigers, along with the moderate Tamil United Liberation Front, will represent the Tamils at the signing ceremony, the sources said.

Meanwhile, the Eelam Revolutionary Organisation of Students, a Tigers ally, has opposed the latest peace proposals. The group described it as "an interim solution and definitely not a comprehensive solution."

Sri Lankan government radio reported Thursday night that Mr. Gandhi is expected to visit Sri Lanka in the next 10 days to join in the signing of the pact.

J.N. Dixit, the Indian high commissioner, left for New Delhi early Friday after a series of meetings with Sri Lankan President Jinnas Jayewardene and senior officials.

The sources said that Mr. Dixit is carrying a draft what is being described as a memorandum of understanding to be signed by the two governments.

But the plan can only be effective with the cooperation of Prabhakaran, the Tamil rebel leader. Most of the rebel groups have exile headquarters in southern India.

Attackers try to kill leading Gandhi critic

NEW DELHI (R) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's leading political critic says men who stormed into a house trying to attack him were trying to kill him.

"It is a clear case of an attempt on my life," former Finance and Defence Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh told reporters after escaping the attack by about 100 men who shouted "long live Rajiv Gandhi" and "death to V.P. Singh."

The incident Thursday was one of the worst assaults on a government critic and Congress Party dissident in years, but Singh escaped unhurt after being rushed into a student hostel for safety, witnesses said.

Another bitter critic of Mr. Gandhi, President Zail Singh, is preparing to step down after a five-year term punctuated by his public disputes with the prime minister.

In a farewell flourish before his successor is sworn in Saturday, Mr. Singh Thursday forced the dismissal of a junior cabinet minister and Gandhi loyalist who accused him of sedition.

K.K. Tewari, minister of state for public enterprises, was dismissed after telling a news conference that India's first Sikh president had harboured Sikh separatist extremists from Punjab in his palace and was involved in "a diabolical conspiracy to subvert the republic."

The president, who said in an

interview this week Mr. Gandhi was "immature" and his reputation was "in the mud," complained to Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Tewari was sacked.

Mr. Singh has been a focus of anti-Gandhi dissent in the past few months, arousing fears that the president might try to dismiss the prime minister over a series of financial and political scandals damaging Mr. Gandhi's image.

Mr. Tewari was the third minister to leave the cabinet in 10 days in a political crisis.

Mr. Gandhi last week also fired four former ministers including V.P. Singh from his Congress (I) Party because of increasing dissent within the party over his leadership.

The attack on Mr. Singh, in which one car was burned and four were damaged and the house was partly wrecked, was the second against dissenting Congress politicians dismissed by Mr. Gandhi.

Former Minister Arif Mohammed Khan was attacked at his New Delhi home last week, in an incident in which shots were fired, a day after Mr. Gandhi threw him out along with two other Congress politicians for "anti-party activities."

Witnesses said members of the youth wing of the Congress (I) Party were involved in both attacks. The youth wing issued a statement denying it was involved.

Dhaka tightens security on final day of strike

DHAKA (R) — A United Nations car being driven through the streets of Dhaka was battered by a crowd Friday, but policemen, just about the only people working in Bangladesh these days, chased the crowd away.

It was the last day of a three-day general strike called by the opposition to protest against the killings of as many as 12 people by policemen.

Factories, schools and shops remained closed and the streets of the capital were largely still except for the movements of policemen.

After Friday prayers, opposition leaders said, the streets would fill with thousands of people who want to use the deaths to turn President Hossein Mohammad Ershad from power.

Obaidur Rahman, secretary-general of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party, which called the strike along with 20 other political parties, said the dead people were martyrs to freedom.

"Their sacrifice will not go in vain," he said.

Five people were shot dead by police in central Dhaka, witnesses said, as opposition activists and government supporters clashed in the streets.

Opposition sources said four other people were wounded and died later in hospital.

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Riot police halt Manila marchers

MANILA (R) — Riot police carrying truncheons and shields Friday halted about 2,000 left-wing demonstrators as they marched towards President Corason Aquino's palace in a protest against her land reform measures.

There was no violence as the marchers stopped short of a bridge barricaded with barbed wire.

Security had been tight in Manila to prevent a repetition of a similar rally six months ago when government troops shot 15 peasant protesters dead as they tried to cross the bridge about 500 metres from the Presidential Palace.

On Friday, however, demonstrators stood to listen to their leaders deliver speeches denouncing Mrs. Aquino, who signed the reforms into law on Wednesday, as an "enemy of the poor."

The "indignation rally" was called by the Philippine Peasants' Movement (KMP), which also staged the January demonstration.

The marchers were led by KMP President Jaime Tadeo, wearing a red shirt bearing the words "farms not arms."

Eyewitnesses said some protesters waved placards saying "land reforms — a U.S.-Aquino ploy" and "Aquino government, Marcos regime — is there a difference."

The land reforms, held out as a radical departure from redistribution of rice and corn land begun 15 years ago by former President Ferdinand Marcos, have been termed a declaration of war by the KMP.

The KMP says the Aquino measures threaten to evict thousands of landless poor from idle and abandoned land and provide loopholes for landowners who want to evade the division of their property.

A congressional leader said landowners were also likely to try to scuttle the land reform bill.

Mrs. Aquino has left it to the new congress, which meets on Monday, to lay down ceilings on the size of coconut and sugar

plantations and decide a timetable for land distribution.

Ramon Mitra, speaker of the House of Representatives and former agriculture minister, told Reuters he had ordered changes in an agrarian reform committee because it included several landowners.

"If not, the bill might just die even at the committee level," he said. "I tell you there was not much enthusiasm among them (the landowners). There was no rush to declare their willingness (to go along with the reforms)."

Buffeted by protests from both peasants and landowners over the decree, Mrs. Aquino was philosophical when asked by reporters how she felt about the two-pronged opposition to her measures.

"The landowners are saying I am declaring war on them," she said. "When I signed this decree, I wanted a programme that would succeed and one that I believe would be in the greater interests of the majority of the Filipino people."

Soviets conduct another nuclear explosion

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union conducted an underground nuclear explosion Friday in the interests of the national economy," the Soviet News Agency TASS said.

It said the blast, carried out at 0200 GMT in the Yakut autonomous republic in Siberia, had a yield of up to 20 kilotonnes, or 20,000 tonnes of dynamite — within the limits of the 1974 U.S.-Soviet threshold test ban treaty.

The TASS description of the explosion indicated it was officially considered non-military in nature.

Mozambican rebels massacre 386 people

MAPUTO, Mozambique (AP) — A U.S. agronomist has said he watched as armed men marched into a Mozambique town "shooting every person and building in sight" in a massacre of at least 386 people, the Mozambique News Agency (AIM) reported.

The agency, AIM, identified the man as Mark Van Koeveering, a 30-year-old agronomist working for the Mennonite Church on a seed multiplication project.

He quoted other survivors as saying the attackers, some of them wearing traditional witchcraft-related adornments, shot, clubbed and bayoneted their victims in the attack, which reportedly occurred Saturday in Homoine, 500 kilometres north of the capital of Maputo.

Mozambique has accused the Mozambique National Resistance (MNR), which is fighting to overthrow the government, of conducting the massacre.

Neighbouring South Africa angrily rejected Mozambique's claim that it was "directly responsible" because it allegedly backs the MNR, and it hinted that such accusations could wreck relations between the two countries.

Mr. Van Koeveering was quoted as saying he heard gunfire about 5:45 A.M. (0345 GMT), looked out of his hotel window and saw tracer bullets.

"The fighting continued for a while and then got very loud. There was a tremendous amount of fire," he told AIM.

"Shortly after that I ran to a different room so I could get a better view, and I saw that many people were already escaping."

He said the escaping residents headed for a nearby village, where a group of Mozambican Army veterans live.

The State University Hospital

6 Haitians hurt during peaceful protests

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP) — Six people were injured Thursday when a plainclothes policeman fired into a crowd of about 2,000 protesters at the end of a peaceful anti-government demonstration, witnesses said.

The shooting triggered a stampede in which protesters smashed store windows.

It was the latest in a series between law enforcement authorities and opposition groups demanding the resignation of the provisional junta led by Lt.-Gen. Henri Namphy.

The State University Hospital admitted two men and four women with gunshot wounds to the arms, legs and buttocks. None appeared to be seriously injured, a hospital official said.

The shooting occurred about 183 metres from police headquarters in downtown Port-Au-Prince as demonstrators were returning at noon to the slum neighbourhood of Del Air, where the rally had begun two hours earlier.

Witnesses said a man ordered them to disperse and then opened fire with a revolver. The man was identified by local reporters, a merchant and demonstrators as a

police officer named Henri Toussaint. Radio stations later reported Toussaint's home was pillaged.

"We didn't make disorder. He wants to provoke us," said one demonstrator.

The demonstration was organised by 11 feminist groups. Demonstrators marched to the civil tribunal to denounce a court officer for her support of the government. They were met by 20 soldiers armed with concussion grenades, which make noise and smoke and are used to disperse crowds.

Van Koeveering, who AIM described as distraught, said the fighting continued for about 10 hours.

They were very well organised. They came in one group with a bearded man in front leading, and directing his people down different streets," he was quoted as saying.

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COLUMNS 7 & 8

Diana 'is not an alcoholic'

LONDON (R) — The Princess of Wales has taken the unusual step of denying reports in Britain's tabloid newspapers that she is a heavy drinker. "Contrary to recent reports in some of our more sensational Sunday newspapers, I have not been drinking and I am not, I can assure you, about to become an alcoholic," Princess Diana said. The princess, whose husband Prince Charles is heir to the British throne, was speaking at a reception at London's historic Guildhall after being awarded the Freedom of the City. Her remark was a break from the British royal practice of not responding to press reports. British tabloids reported recently that Princess Diana and her sister-in-law Sarah Ferguson, the Duchess of York, have been drinking large quantities of champagne, pinos and white wine. The duchess is married to Queen Elizabeth's second son, Prince Andrew. The Freedom of the City grants the Princess of Wales the right to shepherd sheep across London Bridge and be hanged by a silken rope rather than a common hemp one.

Reagan names members of AIDS commission

WASHINGTON (R) — President Reagan has named a homosexual physician, a Catholic cardinal and a former member of the military Joint Chiefs of Staff to a presidential commission that will help deal with the AIDS epidemic. Mr. Reagan's appointment of activist Dr. Frank Lilly to the 13-person panel ended an internal White House dispute over whether the commission should include a homosexual but sources said the president personally overruled them. AIDS (acquired immune deficiency syndrome) is a deadly disease with no known cure which primarily affects homosexual men and intravenous drug users. Among other prominent Americans named by Mr. Reagan to serve on the commission were Cardinal John O'Connor of New York, who heads the largest Catholic archdiocese in the United States, and retired Admiral James Watkins, a former chief of naval operations. Later, Mr. Reagan visited youngsters afflicted with the deadly disease during a tour of the National Institutes of Health and renewed his personal commitment to help combat AIDS.

Convicted killer executed in U.S.

ANGOLA, Louisiana (AP) — Condemned killer Willie Watson was executed in the electric chair early Friday for the rape and murder of a medical student. Watson, 30, was pronounced dead at 2:09 a.m. (0409 GMT), according to Secretary of Corrections C. Paul Phelps. Late Thursday night, the U.S. supreme court refused to stay the execution, and it was delayed briefly by Governor Edwin Edwards while Watson's lawyers made a last-minute plea for him to intervene. "Based on the crime and the decision of the supreme court, the governor denied their request for a reprieve," Phelps said. Watson was condemned for the 1981 rape, robbery and murder of Kathy Newman, a 25-year-old medical student at Tulane University. The State Pardon Board and the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rejected efforts Wednesday to stop the execution of Watson, who admitted raping, robbing and killing Miss Newman.

Israeli army discharges AIDS carriers

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's army discharged a soldier identified as an AIDS patient and seven others identified as carriers of the incurable disease, an army spokesman said Thursday. Among the soldiers identified as AIDS carriers were five reserve soldiers and a career soldier, who was fired from his post, the army spokesman said on condition of anonymity in keeping with military regulations. He said the AIDS patient was a reserve soldier. Israel Army Radio reported the discharge came "in accordance with the army policy." Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almizino said Tuesday Israel was considering to introduce compulsory AIDS tests for its soldiers and for foreign volunteers who come to work at Israel's communal farms. "We are currently checking different ideas about expanding the groups that undergo tests to include soldiers drafted into the army and foreign volunteers," she told Israeli parliament. Ms. Arbeli-Almizino said Israel has had 45 cases of AIDS and 33 of those patients have died. 237 people have been identified as AIDS carriers as of Tuesday.

Prostitutes shrug off AIDS danger

RIO DE JANEIRO (R) — Brazilian prostitutes ended their first national meeting saying they hoped to have their profession legalised and that they were unconcerned by the danger of AIDS. Some 50 prostitutes from around Brazil attended the four-day meeting, where they discussed civil rights, health, police harassment and the deadly acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). "I wouldn't be surprised if someone told me that some condom manufacturers were behind this movement on how to prevent AIDS. I think syphilis and tuberculosis are far more serious," Gabriela Silva Leite, a sociologist and former prostitute who organised the meeting, told a news conference. Doctors say condoms are an effective tool to prevent sexual transmission of the AIDS virus. Brazil has more than 1,000 confirmed AIDS cases and is South America's hardest-hit country.

Woman gets 15 lashes for adultery

KARACHI (R) — A 30-year-old Pakistani woman has been given 15 lashes in a Karachi jail for adultery, the official APP news agency reported. The woman, named only as Rukhsana, was flogged on Sunday at the end of a five-year prison sentence and then released. Rukhsana was arrested in 1982 for living with a man and could not prove she was married to him, APP said. She was found guilty by an Islamic Court and sentenced to five years jail and 15 lashes. Floggings were introduced in 1979. Flogging of women is rare, however, and local residents could not recall a case for several years. Ansar Burney, president of the Prisoners' Aid Society, told Reuters the punishment caused uproar among the 3,000 prisoners at Karachi's Central Jail.

'Da Vinci drawing will never be the same'

LONDON (R) — A famous drawing by Leonardo Da Vinci in London's National Gallery will bear the traces of a gunman's attack forever, the gallery's chief restorer says. "It will never be the same again. It can't be as it was before physically, because it has been torn," Martyn Wyldie told reporters. A 37-year-old unemployed Briton has been charged with shooting at the gallery's most popular exhibit last Friday and has been remanded in custody for a psychiatric report. Wyldie is responsible for rebuilding the priceless charcoal drawing, known as the Cartoon, which was completed in 1500 and depicts the Virgin Mary with her child, St. Anne and John the Baptist. Modern restoring techniques could possibly mask the damage, confined to a small area on the Virgin's clothing, Wyldie said. He added that he hoped the drawing would be on display again in a few months.

Ferry survivor commits suicide

DOVER, England (AP) — A seaman who survived the Zeebrugge ferry disaster which claimed nearly 200 lives killed himself while in a state of depression, his mother told a coroner's inquest. Sylvia Eldridge said her 21-year-old son, Lloyd, had become depressed about the length of time it took to recover the bodies and pull the ship upright. Coroner Richard Sturt recorded a verdict of suicide after police testimony that Eldridge was found in a garage, gassed by fumes from his running car engine. The outside the Belgian port of Zeebrugge on March 6. The vessel was pulled upright on April 7. At least 188 people died, the most recent a woman in a London hospital in May.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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DEAR MR. GOREN

Q—I have followed with interest your discussion of the lead against a suit contesting the ace vs. the king from holding headed by the A-K. Both seem to have drawbacks. Why, then, haven't more players adopted Russian leads? — J.L., Philadelphia, Pa.

A—First, let's consider the drawbacks of the lead of either the king or the ace from A-K combinations. Suppose you and your partner lead the king from that holding, as well as from king-queen. Now suppose that partner leads the king and you hold J-10-x. In front of you, dummy has three low cards in the suit.

If partner's lead is from the king-queen, you want to encourage him to continue the suit. If it is from the ace-king, you want him to shift. You have no way of knowing which.

If you lead the ace from A-K, you eliminate that particular problem. However, now you don't know whether partner's lead of the ace is from that combination or of the ace from A-x-x. Again, there will be many situations where you won't know whether to signal partner to continue the suit or to discourage him. All you have done is to replace one problem with another.

Almost half a century ago the late Sidney Rusinow proposed a so-

lution that has a lot of merit and few, if any, drawbacks. He suggested leading the second of touching honors. This applied to the opening lead only. Thereafter, one reverted to normal leads. His structure of leads was:

Ace: denies king.
King: from A-K. Third hand should signal with the queen or a doubton.

Queen: from K-Q. Third hand should signal with the ace or the jack, but normally not with a doubton. That is to prevent partner from continuing the suit should declarer, holding the A-J, duck the first trick.

Jack: from J-10.
Ten: from J-10.
Nine: from 10-9.

With more than two touching honors in a suit, the correct lead is still the second. Usually, it is then correct to continue with a lower honor to the next trick, or the next time the suit is played.

If the opening leader has the two honors without a supporting card, the top card should be led. Thus, lead the ace from A-K bare, the king from K-Q bare, etc.

Rusinow's method is inherently sound. I don't know why it hasn't proved more popular. It is used with great success by practitioners of the Roman Club system.